The German Tribune

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Terrorism fails to shake UN out of its lethargy



Whether terrorism has lost a battle rather than a decisive campaign in Mogadishu is a question which presents itself in a different light in Bonn than it does at the UN in New York.

It is perfectly understandable that, after the upheavals of the past few days, great hopes were pinned on the United Nations whose members — one would think — only need to act in concert in order to prevent similar disasters in future.

But how much the perspectives differ has become obvious by the manner in which the news of events surrounding this latest chapter in the history of terrorism were received and assessed.

Initially, the hijacking of the Lufthansa jet failed to arouse interest, which was not forthcoming until the hijackers killed the captain. The whole incident did not acquire the quality of a sensation until the rescue mission mounted by Bonn was sucessfully completed.

The severe set-backs that followed this victory — the brutal killing of Hanns-Martin Schleyer and the suicide of the three imprisoned terrorists — on the other hand, were swiftly supplanted at the seat of the United Nations... There is, after all, nothing unusual about the loss of human lives.

If diplomatic circles at the UN were troubled at all by any consequences of the Mogadishu raid, then certainly not by these fatalities but by the threatened strike of the international pilots' organisation.

It so happens that participation in international air traffic is one of the status symbols of a sovereign state — a status symbol no country wants to forgo, even if it could do so.

But even this very powerful lever of a threatened pilots' strike which was intended to rouse the UN from its lethargy and induce it to close ranks in instituting concrete measures to combat air piracy seems doomed to proving ineffectual.

Even UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim seems to have laboured under the delusion that the Mogadishu incident would teach the UN a lesson. He stuck his neck out rather more boldly than usual in calling on the UN to deal swiftly with a draft for a convention against hostage-taking — a convention first introduced in the debate a year ago by Bonn.

If all member nations were to accept this draft and abide by it, hostage taking as a means of extortion could become a think of the past.

Bonn proposed, among other things, that all signatories of the convention put hijackers on trial and that sentences be stiff indeed. This would also mean that hijackers could no longer seek refuge in another country. Moreover, it would meet the pilots' demands for greater flight safety — as a byproduct so to speak.

But, curiously enough, not even Bonn's ambassador to the UN seems to show any great interest in taking his country's motion out of the slow moving mills of the UN procedural machinery, thus enabling it to be pushed through more swiftly.

Bonn's ambassador to the UN fears that the carefully worked out draft — if it were to be thrown into the debate at this timely moment — would meet with defeat due to the sympathy which the terrorists still enjoy in some Arab countries.

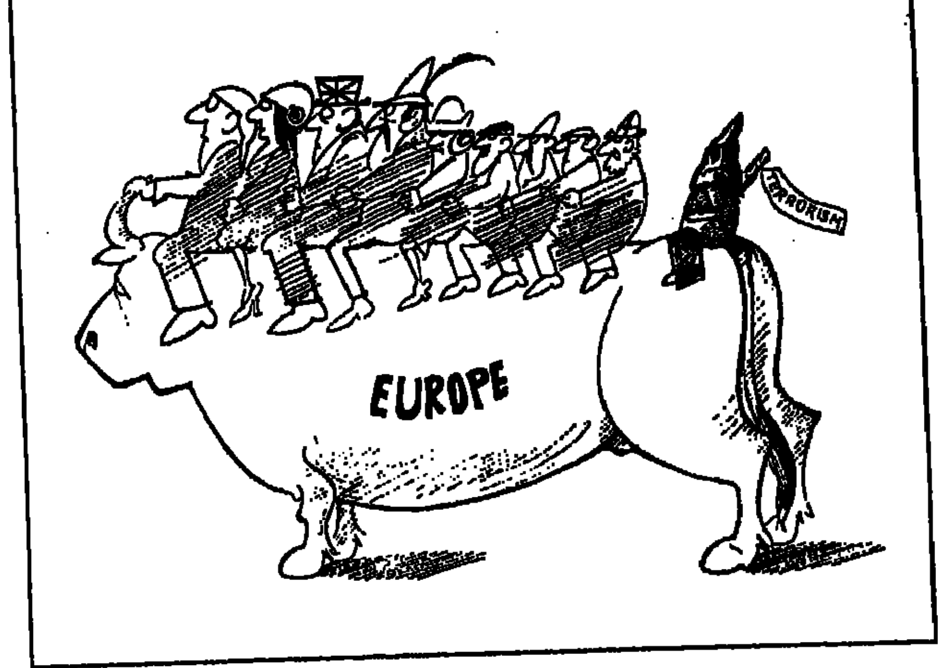
Bonn intends to let the draft take its course through established UN channels.

At this stage, the government of the Federal Republic of Germany would be satisfied if the UN were to pass an appeal (tabled by Austria) calling on all governments to improve air traffic safety.

It is possible that political tactics demand that Bonn proceed in exactly this way. But even so, the fact that even the events of the most recent past cannot induce the UN to abandon its plodding pace is enough to make anyone despair.

H. W. Kettenbach

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 October 1977)



The stowaway

(Cartoon: Hanel/Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger)

IN THIS ISSUE

European terrorism convention is hardly the right example for UN

More than a year ago at the United Nations General Assembly, the Bonn government introduced a draft proposal for a convention against the taking of hostages. Ths was shortly after a French passenger plane had been hijacked en route to Athens and been forced to land in Entebbe, where it was stormed and its passengers freed by Israeli commandoes.

The Bonn government hoped that this incident would make the UN delegates more prepared to listen to its proposals. The response at the time was not entirely negative — not even from those nations who were more indignant about the violation of Ugandan territorial sovereignty than the hijacking itself.

But the United Nations has done nothing during the past year to bring about international agreements which might deter terrorists from their criminal acts.

After the freeing of the hostages on the Lufthansa jet in Mogadishu, the government believes that the present United Nations General Assemly is more likely to give a favourable hearing to its proposals. In his recent government statement the Chancellor expressed the hope that the convention would be given immediate consideration and passed.

This optimism is surprising in view of experience with the much-vaunted terrorism convention signed in the European Council in January. This has so far been ratified and become law in only three signatory states; furthermore, 12 signatories felt it necessary to put in "notes for the record" to prevent the entire package from becoming completely ineffective as a result of French reservations in particular.

The questions of extradition, legal aid, political asylum and terrorists' political motivation played a decisive part in the formulation of the convention.

Norway and Italy, for example, have reserved the right to look at each case on its merits and then make a decision; they have only committed themselves to taking legal action themselves if they do not extradite terrorists. Portugal does not extradite to countries which still have capital punishment.

France is now putting forward reservations with the aim of reducing its obligations according to the convention to a minimum and allowing itself maximum scope for opportunistic considerations.

In short, Paris wishes to decide for itself whether the motives for a crime are terrorist, crimnal or political and whether or not to grant political asylum.

Paris also wishes to decide whether a political motive is in accordance with the interests of the French state or not. France is extremely circumspect in her relations with Arab states and would not welcome foreign interference in the question of whether or not to extradite Arab terrorists and thereby damage her relations with these countries.

It is difficult enough already in the relatively homogeneous cultural and social area of Western Europe to agree on binding descriptions of crimes and motives. How much more difficult is it going to be in the United Nations, where the Third World has its own view of this matter, which is very different from our own.

Bonn has, wisely, only proposed a convention against the taking of hostages, but this will not prevent a renewal of the Geneva Conference dispute on the difference in international law between terrorism and freedom fighting.

Josef Riedmiller

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 21 October 1977)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Some issues remain unresolved after Genscher's Peking visit



Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher's recent visit to Peking marked five years of full diplomatic relations between China and this country.

Herr Genscher was accompanied by a party of more than ninety, but the mood at the end of his visit was not celebratory. His political talks with the Chinese leadership only served to underline how narrow the scope for cooperation between the two countries is on the bilateral and the international level.

This high level German-Chinese meeting seemed dispassionate and reserved in comparison with the assurances of mutual sympathy and interest that characterised the three-wee-week fact finding tour by CDU defence spokesman Manfred Wörner.

His reception was similar to that given to other top CDU/CSU politicians such as Franz Josef Strauss and Gerhard Schröder on their visits to Peking. Here, too, Chinese warnings about the Soviet Union's policy of expansion fell on sympathetic ears.

The conflict between Peking and Moscow was the main subject of discussions between the Chinese and these politicians who are extremely sceptical about the Bonn government's policy of detente. The Peking leaders revealed sensational defence plans to them which had previously been kept secret from all foreigners. Given the convergence of their views on the international political situation, it was hardly surprising that Teng-Hsiao-ping, Chou En-lai's political heir, should choose to reveal his plans for a common front between China, the USA, Japan and Western Europe against the Soviet Union to opposition politician Wörner rather than to Foreign Minister Genscher.

The Chinese attacks on Soviet imperialism must have appeared, in Genscher's eyes, to be pure provocation and a thinly disguiseed attack on the present coalition's concept of detente.

At the first reception in the Hall of the People, deputy Prime Minister Li Hsien-nien bluntly underlined the fundamental difference between the premises on which Chinese foreign policy and Nato's foreign policy were based. He condemned what he called Moscow's "phases of detente" as Foreign Minister Huang Hua had done at the UN, accusing the Soviet Union of speaking with a "forked tongue" and of having plans for unlimited expansion in Europe, Asia and Africa. This was, of course, an implicit criticism of Western attitudes to detente as illusory and unrealistic.

Herr Genscher stated afterwards that he had explained, in his talks with Lu, Huang, and Chinese party leader Hua Kuo-feng that the Federal Republic of Germany's special geo-political situation made a policy of detente and of strength within the West European Alliance necessary and that they understood the German position. This assurance did not sound very convincing in the circumstances.

Given this fundamental difference of principle in the analysis of the international situation, it is hardly surprising that the Chinese gave the cold shoulder to Herr Genscher's proposals for joint German-Chinese cooperation and support for the independence of the South East Asian states.

The Chinese have for some time been following Germany's development policies with benevolent interest, but a common Asia policy side by side with Bonn is unacceptable to them for two reasons: first, Herr Genscher's formula of "anti-influence zones" is too vague for their liking and not sufficiently anti-Soviet in tone and, secondly, Peking is not interested in *de facto* or *de jure* alliances, but only in limited cooperation with the West.

Jürgen Kahl

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 23 October 1977)

Bonn takes a firm stand towards Pretoria



Bonn Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher has stated the government's attitude towards South Africa's recent severe clampdown on critics of its apartheid policy.

The statement reads as follows: "The German government has learnt with consternation, of the South African government's decision to declare 18 predominantly black organisations illegal, the ban on the newspapers, including the main mouthpiece of the black population and the arrest of several journalists. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany appeals to the South African government to rescind these measures which could have serious consequences immediately and to grant elementary human rights to the majority of the population ..."

News had previoulsy come through from Johannesburg of more arrests. One of those arrested is black Lutheran Bishop Manas Buthelezi. Soweto, near Johannesburg, is in the diocese of this bishop who studied in Germany. For over a year now, Soweto has been the scene of violent riots which have cost 500 lives.

Pretoria's Minister of Justice Kruger justified his action by stating that it was important for the government to ensure that peaceful co-existence among the races of South Africa should not be disturbed by a small group of anarchists. He also announced that he would take further mesures if this should prove necessary.

The government's action has come in for severe criticism both in South Africa and abroad. Hodding Carter, spokesman of the US State Department read a statement which, he said, had been approved by President Jimmy Carter. The statement said that "Washington would examine very closely the significance of these events for relations between South Africa and the United States."

The Nigerian ambassador to the United Nations and chairman of the

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Brezhnev's Bonn visit this year remains uncertain

The decision on whether or not Soviet President Brezhnev will be visiting Bonn this year or next will have to fall very soon. Relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union have suffered some setbacks as of very recently, and these setbacks in conjunction with international developments necessitate some rethinking.

The schedule for the Brezhnev visit is therefore subject to the question on both sides whether or not it is meaningful to arrange a summit at the earliest possible date, thus getting some action concerning the problems on hand, or whether it might be better to prepare the visit still more thoroughly. The final decision will have to be reached in the first half of November.

With regard to the three still open treaties which are to settle the inclusion of West Berlin, no progress has been made so far. On the contrary, Soviet criticism of Bonn's West Berlin policy and above all of Foreign Minister Genscher has become even more accentuated.

This is borne out by a recently published article in the magazine *Novoye Vremya.*

The article says, among other things: "It must unfortunately be said that the Federal Government is looking for grey zones in the Four Power Agreement in order to create precedents by means of unilateral actions — precedents aimed at changing the balance of interests."

The article then goes on to say that the opinion prevails in the Federal Republic of Germany that even today Bonn can still act in the same manner regarding West Berlin as it did prior to the Four Power Agreement. This puts it very bluntly.

Kieler Nachrichten

But in the economic sphere, too, there is new ballast to be jettisoned. The Kursk steel works deal, which was confirmed by the then Chancellor Brandt and Brezhnev in Bonn in 1973, is in danger of being eroded by factual developments. Many Soviet requests for changes and modernisation, together with general price increases in industry, have made the German participation rise from about DM6,000 million to close to DM20,000 million.

It has long since become obvious that, in view of this state of affairs, the Kursk project will have to be reduced in magnitude.

The Soviets had agreed to pay cash for the first phase of the project. But as things stand now it remains open whether or not the Soviet Union will embark on an entirely new orientation towards other Western nations and depend on its own resources, thus considerably reducing the share of the Federal Republic of Germany.

But even earlier, the intention announced by Chancellor Schmidt during his last Moscow visit to erect a joint power station in East Prussia, intended to supply the Federal Republic of Germany and West Berlin, was shelved for political and financial reasons.

Western business representatives in Moscow have latterly observed the trend on the part of the Soviet Union to shift orders from the Federal Republic of Germany to France. Moreover, trade relations have become more complicated due to extremely hard terms concerning prices and an increasing incidence of Soviet demands for barter deals.

Initially, the Mutual Balanced Forces Reduction (MBFR) was supposed to be the central issue of the Bonn summit, which the two countries wanted to tackle despite the fact that US-Soviet Salt negotiations were making no progress.

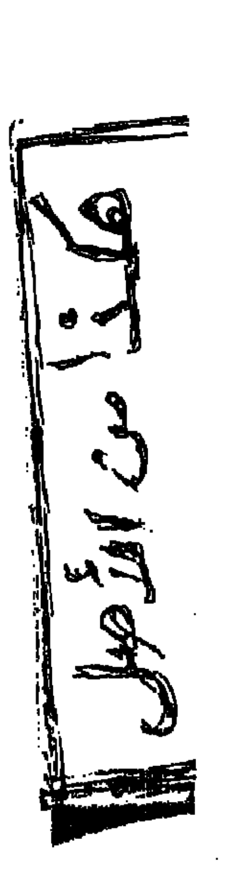
But the recent favourable developments concerning Salt have changed the situation.

It would seem more logical at present if Bonn and Moscow were to engage in MBFR talks once the Salt issue becomes clearer, since the present state of negotiations there could soon lead to a breakthrough.

And finally, the atmosphere created by the Soviet press is not exactly conducive to preparing a state visit. The Soviet press, when writing on terrorist activities, is constantly pointing to dangers from the right and to suppression of leftist forces in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Heinz Lathe

(Kieler Nachrichten, 24 October 1977)



■ BONN

Government and opposition bury the hatchet – for the time being



The 18th October was the day on which the Germans first fully identified with and committed themselves to their democratic society. This commitment and identification had long been present on the intellectual plane. The emotional identification was not yet complete, but the events of this day completed it.

First there was the shock and horror of the Schleyer kidnapping, the weeks of uncertainty and waiting. Then came the hijacking of the Lufthansa jet with 87 holidaymakers and crew aboard.

The reaction was a feeling of utter helplessness and compassion with the victims. The insane Odyssey of the gangsters and their hostages from the Balearics to the coast of Somalia evoked responses capable of turning in any direction.

These feelings reached their climax on 17 october in the evening, with the moving pilgrimage of the hostage's relatives to the crisis staff headquarters "Herr Chancellor, I want my Mum back," read one poster. The churches called upon their members to pray for the hostages at 18.00 hours on Tuesday, and the Pope offered himself as a hostage in their place — an unprecedented act. It seemed that the limit of the tolerable had been reached.

The party leaders, with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt at their head, had also reached the limits of endurance. The crisis staff was presided over by the chancellor, whose terseness and strength of nerves won admiration on all sides. The members were encouraged in all their deliberations during these weeks of crisis by the awareness that there was complete unanimity among them and that the majority of the people supported their hard line.

A snap poll by the Allensbach Institute on Monday evening, however, showed how the mood of the people had changed. Forty two per cent were against the release of the Baader/Meinhof prisoners in exchange for the hostages, and forty two per cent were in favour — the rest had not made up their minds. The decision in Bonn had already been made, and hours later it achieved what neither the cost reduction law nor the economic packages had succeeded in doing: complete identity between the will of the people and the action of the executive branch.

It is clear that the courageous raid by the GSG 9 unit was one of those military or paramilitary ventures which had to succeed if it was not to be condemned by history. The political leadership of this country had no real alternative. The plan put forward in some CSU circles of exchanging prisoners for hostages and then declaring a state of emergency was not realistic.

The Federal Constitutional Court had been called upon by Herr Schleyer's familly to force the government to accept the terrorists' terms for his release, but it had to turn down this understandable request and rule in favour of the executive in accordance with its duty.

The victory won by this country was not achieved by out and out gamblers but by cool heads who had weighed the risks carefully before acting. Even a democracy is capable of defending itself in an emergency. This is something Hitler failed to realise in 1940 and Stalin failed to realise later.

However, the national and international terrorist cadres have either ignored or not sufficiently realised this fact. There is a weak link in their offensive position. The collective suicide of three members of the Baader/Meinhof-hard core who were to be released indicates not only resignation at the failure of the "big spring" job. It also underlines that the founding fathers of this jeans and puberty jargon no longer had any hope of seeing the revolution they hoped would result from the countless demonstrations of the past. Loss of contact with reality has always been indicated by alienation from the language of the masses.



Chancellor Helmut Schmidt (right) and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher thanking Somalia's Ambassador Yusuf Adan Bokah for his country's support in freeing Lufthansa hostages in Magadishu (Photo: dpa)

We will probably have to go on living with the fear that these neurotics will start a new wave of terror in their urge to affirm themselves. It will be senseless, futile and will not have the remotest chance of success.

One wonders how the so-called "scene", which has been silent in the past few days will react to all this. It is a fact that the reaction of the government reflects the will of the vast majority of the population, but the question remains: how is the generation gap to be closed?

The university campuses have surprises in store for us in the coming academic year. This is a fact that has been forgotten in the euphoria of the freeing of the Lufthansa jet. But there is time now to predict and prepare for what is to come.

There is time to point out the fundamental futility of it all. This nation would rather go into the resistance than accept the language, gestures and modes of thinking of left wing romanticism.

Professor Marcuse's theory that an intellectual minority rather than a conformist working class would form the battering ram of the revolution is unrealistic and as good as forgotten. In this respect, the 18th of October was a historic date.

In the meantime, this country's police is bemoaning the fact that only 25 per cent of their wanted posters have been put up in shop windows. "In the opinion of high-ranking officials, the terrorists are now convinced that they have succeeded in creating the impression that it is more dangerous to work for than to work against the state." This is it. There is not — yet — any cause for self congratulation.

Eberhard Maseberg

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 23 October 1977)

Continued from page 2

UN committee against apartheid, called on western states to give up their "ambivalent attitude" towards South Africa and join the the "defence of freedom" in that country.

The conservative government orientated South African newspaper "The Citizen" regretted the banning of the two newspapers, saying that "two lights of press freedom have gone out with them". Members of the African National Congress in London described the government's move as "an act of desperation by the whithe minority."

(Die Welt, 21 October 1977)

Troubled times bring unity across party lines

Yusuf Adan Bakah, ambassador of the socialist state of Somalia, was last week applauded for several minutes by the members of the German Bundestag. It was a scene that, a few days earlier, he would hardly have dreamt possible. Even the Christian Democrats joined in the applause for the representative of Somalian President General Barre, who had given permission for the German Border Police unit to storm the Lufthansa jet at Mogadishu and free the hostages. Even those members of the opposition who had been demanding that the government stop giving development aid to countries that cooperated with the Soviet Union joined in the ovation.

Yusuf Adan Bakah stood up and bowed his head for a moment as an expression of thanks. The Chancellor also applauded from the speaker's desk of the Bundestag — something that has never happened before. Chancellor Schmidt assured the Somali ambassador: "We will never forget this; it will certainly have an effect on our relations in future" referring to the Somalian cooperation in the freeing of the hostages. Bundestag President Karl Carstens thanked the ambassador in the name of the entire Parliament.

Then Chancellor Schmidt made a biblical comparison: "Our black brother was the Good Samaritan who rescued the whites who had fallen among thieves from their misery."

Politically, this meant that the Somalians "whom many in this country have criticised or rejected because they have chosen a different form for their society" had shown solidarity. The speech was then translated for the Somalian ambassador by the chief of protocol.

This first full session of the Bundestag after the freeing of the hostages in Mogadishu and the murder of Hanns-Martin Schleyer in Alsace was not the first time that the members of all parties had joined ranks to express a feeling that they all shared. Usually, the line of division between the government camp and the opposition is clearly defined. Last week, this line could no longer be seen.

The terrorists' threat of revenge has brought government and opposition even closer together than they had been in the preceding days. Helmut Schmidt is the "Chancellor of the crisis team." Two days previously, when he had a brief respite after the freeing of the Mogadishu hostages, he told journalists in a press conference with British Prime Minister James Callaghan that the expression "big crisis staff" should not be used in future, because it was in fact a "staff of advisers." And in the Bundestag he said: "I would like to thank the members of the various crisis staffs." This was greeted with applause from the entire Bundestag.

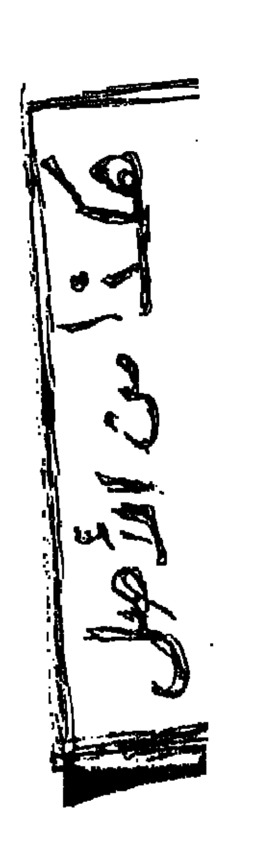
Opposition leader Helmut Kohl is jointly responsible for the victory in Mogadishu as well as for the defeat in Mulhouse. He agrees with Helmut Schmidt in his appeal that "some of the solidarity of the past few weeks" should be preserved for the future, considering this to be the duty of the entire Bundestag.

The terrorists have thwarted opposition plans to launch an autumn offensive against the government. Helmut Kohl will continue to give the Chancellor full support even after last week's session of Parliament. Kohl was there when Schmidt presented the GSG 9 men with the Federal Order of Merit. Wearing their olive green uniform and berets instead of jeans this time, the men shook hands first with the Chancellor then with the leader of the opposition as they were presented with their awards. A lot will depend on this unit in the future.

As Herbert Wehner put it in the Bundestag, the whole nation had been through a harrowing experience. "And as far as we can see, there is even worse to come."

Udo Bergdoll

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 21 October 1977)



■ CONGRESSES

Printers' union becomes edgy as technology threatens jobs

The eleventh congress of the *IG Druck und Papier* (printers' union) confirmed the union's chairman Leonhard Mahlein, 56, in office. Mahlein, who has headed the union since 1968, received 197 of the delegates' 265 votes. The editor Detlev Hensche was elected as president of the executive board with 203 of 265 votes. The deputy chairman Erwin Ferlemann received 191 of 265 votes.

The printers' union, once the proud avant garde of German trade unions, has fallen prey to a virus of consumption. It has become nervous and jittery and is trying to fight suffocating fear.

The delegates at the recent conference in Augsburg were visibly worried about the effects of the technological revolution in the printing business. Typesetters, proof readers etc. have to put up with the bitter realisation that they are gradually coming under the wheels of progress as lead is replaced by sophisticated electronics. But editors, too, have nothing to rejoice about.

Concern about their future livelihood has made these people receptive for radical theses. It is therefore not surprising that the union's chairman Leonhard Mahlein and his eloquent second-in-command Detlev Hensche were applauded when they called for the nationalisation of key industries such as major banks and monopolistic concerns. After all, it would have been unrealistic to expect of a shrinking trade that it engage in eulogies about a free market economy.

The printers' union is still labouring under the high indebtedness resulting from last year's strike — an indebtedness which will take many years to wipe out. Lack of circumspection on both sides drove labour and management into a conflict situation which continues to smoulder. There was an undertone of desperation discernible in Mahlein's call on the *Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund*, DGB, the German Trade Unions Federation, demanding more solidarity.

Mahlein's position is precarious. His union intends to press business into a contract which will bring about not only new internal codetermination arrangements but will above all put the brakes on structural changes through technology.

The printers want to prevent editors working on computers from — on top of their own jobs — also taking on the functions of typesetters and proof readers. They demand that such functions must remain with the specialised people in the printing industry and they would be determined to fight it out if only the strike coffers were not empty.

Newspaper and magazine publishers have so far either remained intransigent or have been stalling.

But they put their foot in and truly angered the union when, prompted by an allegedly unconstitutional motion at the Augsburg congress, they refused to engage in any further talks, demanding that the motion be withdrawn if any parleying is to be resumed.

The whole thing goes back to an appeal by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in his government policy statement of December 1976, calling on the parties in collective bargaining to find a solution to the problem of the internal freedom of the press on a basis of consensus. Unless they did so within three years, said Herr Schmidt, the legislative branch would have to intervene.

In order to counter such a contingency, the union has now worked out a list of demands which, to say the least, shocked the publishers and which is also controversial among journalists.

According to the union's ideas, all newspaper and magazine publishers should have an editorial committee which will have a say in all matters on a codetermination basis and in which the works' council would be represented. They also call for the suspension of the *Tendenzschutz* legislation (whereby editors and journalists who have an effect on the publication's political or ideological viewpoint are exempted from certain provisions with regard to hiring and firing).

They furthermore demand that no publisher must be permitted to be editor-in-chief. And in order to prevent further trust formations in the press, they want advertising to be subjected to communal controls.

If there is no other way to put an end to the trust formation process, concerns dominating the market are to be nationalised, say the unionists. But do they really consider such a move only as a last resort? If so, why do they — in a different context — state that "the actual dangers for the freedom of the press today lie in our free market economy based on private ownership"?

Printers Union boss Leonhard Mahlein (left), Education Minister Helmut Rohde and Heinz Oskar Vetter, chairman of trade unions federation at Augsburg congress (Photo: dpa)

This formulation is clearly attributable to Detlev Hensche, the feisty lawyer who joined the printers' union, having previously worked for the DGB head office where he was a member of the executive committee.

Hensche is obsessed with the idea that anybody who criticises, say, the speech of a union boss in the privately-owned press is a stooge of his publisher.

Himself an out-and-out political partisan and bent on class struggle, Herr Hensche is quick to condemn any article that does not suit him as a violation of the public function of the press.

He takes it for granted that, while collective bargaining is in process, typesetters should have the right to refuse to print editorials opposing or unsympathetic to the union unless they provide equal space for pro-union opinion.

Herr Mahlein, who in earlier years held a different view, propounded the following thesis at the Augsburg congress: "Most of the privately-owned press, during the printers' strike in April 1976, refused to print anything but negative views about the labour dispute... such collusion virtually borders on political terror in the opinion sector."

Detlev Hensche was up in arms in Augsburg when the call for nationalisation was countered with the remark that this would be unconstitutional.

And, indeed, the constitutional right guaranteeing the freedom of the press is not bound by any stipulations concerning ownership or a specific market system. But Hensche's aversion to a privately-owned press — an aversion based on dogmatic ideology — could well provide a foretaste of the alleged blessing of a nationalised press. *Peter Diehl-Thiele*

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 October 1977)

Trial lawyers are allergic to some anti-terrorism laws

At the very beginning of the German Trial Lawyers' Association congress in Bonn, the Association's chairman, Dr Erich Schmidt-Leichner, said: "We are aware that the legal profession and above all trial lawyers have come under a cloud."

He thus made it clear from the very outset where the shoe pinches his 31,000 colleagues in this country.

Ever since some defence counsellors for the terrorists acted as accessories to their clients, the image of trial lawyers in the Federal Republic of Germany has suffered.

It was therefore the prime purpose of the Bonn congress to assure the public that the lawyers themselves suffer most from the few black sheep in their midst.

As Dr Schmidt-Leichner put it: "Trial lawyers as a whole have integrity and are beyond reproach. They consider themselves bound by the Constitution and are loyal to our constitutional democracy. In fighting for justice and for the rights of their clients they will never become their accomplices. All those who hamper the course of justice or indeed act in collusion with their clients do not belong in our ranks."

But this is easier said than done. Among the participants in Bonn were also the Baader-Meinhof attorneys Groenewold from Hamburg and Strübele from Berlin.

The Trial Lawyers' Association, which is also a work group of the German Bar Association, is reluctant to expel these men. Says Bar Sssociation administrator Dr Brangsch: "As long as a person is admitted to the Bar he also has the right to be a member of our association."

In fact, lawyers bemoan the fact that the black sheep among them are not stripped of their right to plead in court quickly enough. But on the other hand, the Bar Association itself is not exactly quick to act. Only Klaus Croissant was stripped of his membership before being stripped of his right to act as defence counsel.

The trial lawyers are allergic to a flood of laws intended to combat terrorism. There was consensus among them that "the constitutionally guaranteed rights must not be whittled away still further."

As Dr Schmidt-Leichner put it: "We are not concerned about us, the lawyers, but about the citizen facing a trial judge." He went on to say that this "citizen" could be any one of us and pointed out that the major danger lies in the fact that laws which are today made in order to combat terrorism will eventually have an effect on all criminal trial proceedings.

The lawyers in Bonn noted with satisfaction that Chancellor Schmidt, too, has now expressed concern about controls of attorney-client conversations. Such controls are the legal Rubicon which, according to most lawyers, must not be crossed. The legal profession would rather put up with and show more understanding for measures facilitating the removal of a lawyer suspected of collusion with his client.

The trial lawyers were relieved on learning of the Government's intention to introduce reforms concerning disbarment procedures. At present, Bar Associations have no instrument with which to proceed against their black sheep since the Associations' expulsion proceedings can only be instituted at the request of the public prosecutor. In future, however, Bar *Associations* are to be given more latitude and be enabled to act on their own.

In view of the hijacking of the Lufthansa jet it was obvious that matters involving terrorism and defence counsellors for terrorists were the focal point of discussion. As a result other matters were relgated to second place — among them the question whether or not it would be meaningful to introduce the new professional designation "Criminal Trial Lawyer".

Another topic of discussion was the ban on multiple defence by one lawyer. This means that, for example, in a court proceeding against 200 violators of cartel legislation it is necessary for 200 separate lawyers to appear. As Dr Brangsch put it, "this is unadulterated nonsense." He stressed that this ban should be lifted at least in cases involving disciplinary action and fines.

Some terrorist counsellors also protested against this law because, as they put it, this makes it impossible to pursue a "bloc defence" in terrorist trials.

Thus the Bonn congress once more reverted to the issue of terrorism.

Dr Schmidt-Leichner pilloried the present practice in our courts, whereby a lawyer of the terrorist's own choice must be assisted by a court-appointed lawyer. This, he stressed, can only create the impression that the latter is a "lawyer enjoying the court's confidence."

It goes without saying that Dr Schmidt-Leichner is not unaware of the dilemma confronting our courts when the accused terrorists' own lawyers suddenly and demonstratively take off their robes in court. Says he: "The problem could, however, be solved by introducing a substitute attorney who does not interfere in the course of the trial as long as the lawyer-of-choice exercises his function." *Horst Zimmermann*

(Der Tagesspiegel, 16 October 1977)

■ INTERNAL SECURITY

The world-wide tentacles of terrorism

The decision to coerce the German government to release the Baader/-Meinhof prisoners by hijacking the Lufthansa aeroplane was probably taken in France. The German *Verfassungsschutz* (Office for the Protection of the Constitution) believes that a group of Baader/Meinhof gang members and the terrorist leader Illich Ramirez Sanchez, better known as "Carlos", met some weeks ago to prepare the hijacking. The co-ordination of this operation with the kidnapping of Hanns Martin Schleyer confirms fears that both crimes were planned and carried out by the terrorist "international".

The international nature of terrorism has been causing the *Verfassungsschutz* nightmares for some time. The game of hide and seek which Baader/Meinhof lawyer Klaus Croissant played with the French police and the arrest of Red Army Faction (RAF) member Knut Folkerts in Holland recently have underlined the fact that German terrorists can count on active support from certain circles in these countries, in which they can operate and prepare further action.

The German terrorists' close contact with the Arab terror scene first came to light at the beginning of the seventies, when Ulrike Meinhof and Horst Mahler were trained in Palestinian freedom fighters' training camps.

The officers responsible for their training did not rate them particularly highly, but it is evident that they had learnt a number of terrorist skills and tactics by the time they returmed.

Since the attack on the Vienna OPEC conference in December 1975 and the Entebbe hijack drama of July 1976, it has been clear for all to see that German and Arab terrorists are carrying out joint operations.

These joint operations had up to now always been for Palestinian objectives. The hijacking of the Lufthansa jet "Landshut" was the first operation in this un holy alliance to help the German guerillas — its twofold purpose was to "flank" the Schleyer kidnapping and to force the German government to release the Baader/Meinhof prisoners.

The co-ordination of the Schleyer kidnapping and the hijacking of the Lufthansa jet renewed nightmares which had been plaguing Western security experts for a considerable period of time: the fear of a world cartel of international terrorist gangs which could destroy the present world order.

The freeing of the hostages in Mogadishu has removed some of these fears. But the question remains: is there still a danger of world-wide terrorism operating under central command? The director of the Hamburg Office for the Protection of State Security, Hans Josef Horchem, has attempted to give an answer to this question. He has worked out a typology for terrorists, whom he divides into three categories.

Into the first category come underground fighters on behalf of religious and ethnic minorities, such as the religious fanatics in Northern Ireland, the Basque ETA and the Corsican separatists. They are fighting for freedom from a foreign power, for cultural autonomy or for more representation in national or regional parliaments. There is nothing new about these movements and in many cases they have deep historical roots in their country or region.

The second category of terrorists is not fighting for freedom from central governments or dominant influences. Its goal is revolution, the violent overthrow of the system. The first specimens of this were the Tupamaros in Uruguay, the "Red Brigades" in Italy and the "Red Army" in Japan. The "Red Army Faction" and the "Second of June Movement" in this country come into this category.

The Palestinian terrorists groups are different from other terrorists in that they do not operate from within one state which they are fighting against, but move between the fronts in the Middle East and have only one common objective: the annihilation of Israel. Palestinian terrorism even managed to achieve a form of diplomatic recognition. The PLO's leader Arafat spoke at the United Nations and his organisation is a factor which has to be taken into account in efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East. Fears of an international terrorist organisation appear to be unfounded given the diversity of aims, modes of operation and organisation described above. There could, however, be mutual support among terrorists. We have seen sufficient evidence of this in the last few years.

Weapons for a number of different terrorist organisations came from the same source in Switzerland. German terrorists used Swiss hand grenades, explosives and guns when they attacked the German embassy in Stockholm. The same Swiss source also supplied the notorious "Carlos" with weapons, as well as the three Japanese terrorists who attacked the French embassy in the Hague. False passports from the same source were found on German terrorists, on the Entebbe hijackers and in Carlos' hideout.

Because of the poor level of international cooperation in the fight against terrorism, it is very likely that a number of international connections between terrorists still have not been discovered. The Lufthansa hijacking is clear proof of this hypothesis.

The Palestinian Wadi Hadad is considered the mastermind behind this operation. He is the leader of a group, which has broken away from Georges Habasch's People's Front for the Liberation of Palestine. This organisation specialises in skyjackings, and the Venezualan Carlos is one of its most prominent members. The support Hadad gave the German terrorists was not out of terrorist comradeship or ideological sympathy. He was thinking of hard cash when he put his people on to the German jet.

If the Baader/Meinhof prisoners had been released the world each have been given 100.000 deutschmarks; Hadad stood to make an even bigger killing out of the operation: the 15 million dollars that were to be handed over with the two Palestinian prisoners to be released from Turkish jails.

This money-mindedness of Hadad and other Palestinians has been the despair of German terrorists inthe past. They had great hopes when they first joined the Arab units in South Yemen and Lebanon. With Ulrike Meinhof's and Horst Mahler's pamphlets in their bags still providing the ideological motivation for their acts, they thought they would find allies in the Palestinians.

But they were soon disillusioned. A few months ago, the terrorist Hans-Joachim Klein, in a letter to the news magazine Spiegel, complained bitterly about the "cynicism and lack of humanity" with which his Arab comrades in arms reacted to the deaths at the Vienma Opec conference.

Rolf Pohle, too, who was released in exchange for Berlin CDU leader Peter Lorenz, complained about the Palestinians' "complete lack of ideology." At his extradition trial in Athens, Pohl made a number of big speeches, yet his diaries reveal him to be a man who suffered not only because of his homosexual inclinations but also because of his lack of political friends.

The Arab and German terrorist organisations have never had anything in common from a programmatic point of view. On the contrary, there was a considerable amount of mutual contempt.

The RAF has only recently gained the Palestinians' respect, with the series of murders which began with the killing of Chief Federal Prosector Siegfried Buback.

Hadad's agreement to stage the Lufthansa operation was taken as a sign of a change of heart on his part. Now that is has failed, the German authorities reckon that cooperation will also cease, especially as Hadad's organisation is now in a crisis as a result of the Mogadishu failure.

Opinions differ as to the future of the RAF now that its leaders have committed suicide. This oldest German guerilla organisation had had a new lease of life over the past few months. The murder of Herr Buback and the kidnapping of Hans Martin Schleyer brought them sympathy, from the so called "K" groups for example. The *Verfassungsschutz* believes that if the attempts to have the RAF prisoners released had been successful, many young people would have crossed the threshold from political extremism to the terrorist underground.

After the suicides in Stammheim, there were a large number of telephone calls among members of the underground. The claim that "the comrades had "been executed" started making the rounds. The *Verfassungsschutz* believes that this legend is more likely to be used by the now leaderless RAF thanby the "revolutionary cells." This cadre of spare time terrorists are believed to have been recruiting in alarming numbers recently. The revolutionary cells should have little difficulty in establishing contacts with the Palestinians. They, too, are swom enemies of "Zionist imperialism."

Dieter Buhl

(Die Zeit, 21 October 1977)

GSG 9 proves its worth in Mogadishu rescue action

The successful storming of the hijacked Lufthansa aircraft in Mogadishn by the GS99 special unit of the *Bundesgrenzschutz* Federal Border Police) came five years after the bloody outrage at Fürstenfeldbruck near Munich — the Waterloo of the German anti-terrorist forces.

In these five years, the Federal Republic of Germany has been put to many severe tests and on several occasions undergone the humiliating experience of having to give in to terrorism. The GSG9 men have changed this, have shown that this country has learnt the lessons of terrorism and will be able to answer any such attacks in future effectively.

After the Fürstenfeldbruck incident, Herr Genscher, who was then minister of the interior, realised that a specialist anti-terrorist team would have to be set up to combat violence and hijackings. The Fürstenfeldbruck attack had cost too many lives. And so this elite federal unit was set up, despite premature criticism from some quarters and petty jealousies between the states.

But even before this unit was given the chance to show what it could do, there were many sceptics who never tired of questioning the point and the capabilities of the unit. Others wondered why this unit had not been used more often in the fight against terrorism.

The skyjacking of the Lufthansa jet was a perfect case for the GSG 9. They had been training hard, practising methods of storming passenger planes. Their training was at least as hard as that of US rangers or Israeli special units. Every one of the 178 GSG 9 Federal Border policemen is a trained sharpshooter. They are all ju-jitsu and karate experts and have been trained to use special equipment, such as night-sight devices, walkie-talkies and radios or "drive" super-fast cars (they have to take curves at 130 m.p.h.) and carry out attacks from helicopters. The helicopters hover forty or fifty metres in the air while the "green berets" climb down ropes.

Personal courage and absolute physical fitness are essential for such manoeuvres. The GSG 9 men have to do gruelling alpine climbs, for instance, but physical training is by no means the only item in their training programme. The reason for this is that they are not soldiers, they are not a military group, but an emphatically "civilian" police corps.

Compared with some of the most spectacular stormings of hijacked planes abroad and the Dutch attack on a train in which Moluccan terrorists were keeping passengers hostage, the GSG 9 action in Mogadishu was highly effective. Not a single hostage was killed, the bullets only hit the terrorists.

On 8 May 1972, twelve Israeli elite soldiers disguised as mechanics stormed an aeroplane at Lod airport with equal precision, rescuing 91 Belgian passengers and killing two terrorists. Then followed the terrible Olympic massacre in Fürstenfeldbruck. The Germans, who at that time had no special units for this kind of criminal situation, failed completely. They had previously rejected Defence Minister Dayan's offer to send Israeli troops to Munich to rescue the Olympic team.

The Mogadishu action by the Bonn GSG 9 can be compared with the Israeli raid in Entebbe on 4 July 1976. The main difference is that the German unit had the full consent of the Somalian government to carry out their attack whereas the Israeli's had to infringe on Ugandan territorial sovereignty and act against the will of tyrant Idi Amin.

In August 1975, the Egyptians, using tricks they had learnt from the Israelis, stormed a passenger plane in Luxor and shot a hijacker who was allegedly in the pay of the Libyan head of state Gaddhafi. In the Dutch attack on the train held by Moluccans, two hostages were also killed. This is a risk which simply cannot be ruled out in such attacks.

Hans Wüllenweber

(Der Tagesspiegel, 19 October 1977)

■ DEVELOPMENT AID

Marie Schlei on Bonn's assistance to southern Africa

Bonn's aid for the front states in southern Africa — among them Moçambique, Zambia, Botswana, Tanzania, Angola — has given rise to heated disputes, A *Sonntagsblatt* editorial team interviewed Mrs Schlei, minister for economic cooperation and development.

Q: Mrs Schlei how do you justify your aid to the so called front states in southern Africa — an aid which is largely aid for refugees?

A: Our development policy is aid for the region and aid for the refugees. It operates independent of religious, *Weltanschauung* or political affiliations, and it is an attempt to reach people in need. It operates whenever a contribution towards satisfying basic needs can be made. In cases where the state is unable to do so by its own resources alone — including state subsidies — foundations, churches and other organisations participate. This fundamental question of our development policy has been decided upon. Compared with this, all other questions are of secondary importance.

Q: Does this principle of satisfying basic needs also apply without restriction to countries which harbour refugees and perhaps sympathisers of liberation movements?

A: Cooperation with such countries, as with communist-governed countries, is only a problem of our domestic politics. From the viewpoint of those concerned it is no problem. We are wanted as partners and other nations increasingly seek cooperation with German business. We wouldn't dream, therefore, uf subjecting ourselves to embarassing situations in terms of foreign policy for reasons of domestic politics.

Developing nations cannot be categorised according to our yardsticks as socialist, communist or capitalist. Moreover, it is frequently overlooked in discussions that German business itself attaches a great deal of importance to cooperation with such countries. The moment the state operates in those countries and concludes treaties, investment safety for private business also increases. So much for principles. Granted, the refugee situation in southern Africa is very much in the limelight at present, but we provide humanitarian aid for other parts of the world as well. The refugees in southern Africa are by no means people who are wandering around for the sake of adventure. Those who have to flee leave their families, their home countries and their livelihood behind. Admittedly, they go to a country which is also populated by black people, but for these people the other black African country is as little their homeland as would France or Rumania be for us.

Q: Why can the front states themselves not manage to look after the refugees?

A: The states on the periphery of the conflict which call themselves front states have to cope with a difficult development of their own. Embargos and war-like conditions add to the burden. And now the refugee problem adds to it still further. In this situation they depend on outside help.

Q: African government representatives — and not only from Botswana — were outraged at the report of the Opposition's spokesman on development aid. According to Herr Todenhöfer, the refugee camp Selebi Pikwe in Botswana is supposed to be a training camp for guerrileros. In his latest question addressed to the Government, Herr Todenhöfer stated that this camp has now already been conceived as a future prison. According to him both of these facts were known to the Federal Government. How do you view the situation?

A: Democratic Botswana is the poorest country in southern Africa. This country demonstrates how Black and White can live and work with each other and how, within the government and indeed the cabinet, Whites hold executive positions and exert their influence and their power. And now it is Botswana of all countries which is exposed to this defamation process which has its roots in domestic politics. Moreover, it seems as if the illegal Rhodesian government is making use of such statements in order to prepare for an attack on a Botswana which cannot defend itself, has open borders and no armed forces. Here a sagaciously conceived foreign policy is destroyed by defamation of a democratic state and by maintaining that it makes use of the funds set aside for development aid in the Federal Republic of Germany in order to erect training camps for freedom fighters ...

Q: And for prisons, as Herr Todenhöfer maintains.

A: I am not at all surprised that the development aid spokesman (of the Opposition ed.) is so quick to change the reasons given for his attacks. Sometimes the camp is a transit camp, sometimes a transit and recruiting camp, sometimes a transit receiving and recruiting camp. And now it is supposed — at some future date — to become a prison. There was never any talk of such plans between the governments concerned.

Q: The Federal Republic of Germany bears particular responsibility in the case of Namibia, and this includes the Germans there. How can we do justice to this responsibility?

A: There, the Protestant Church has pursued an exemplary policy of conciliation by making the Swapo leader Tjongarero the director of an institute. This a wise policy, since only in a dialogue can we come closer to the liberation movements and act on behalf of the Whites for whom we feel responsible. This policy is wrecked by the senseless rightist views of the Opposition.

Q: Why has your policy met with such opposition on the part of the German public? Has it not been sufficiently described and patiently enough explained?

A: The Africans were quicker to understand that the Federal Republic of Germany's government is prepared to engage in a concrete Africa policy rather than just pay lip service. During my Africa tour, the states which I visited demonstrated: We want to remain non-aligned, we want to remain free of power influences of an imperialist character. This was also a signal to Podgorny and Castro who were touring Africa at the same time. The Americans have understood this. But this has not been conveyed to the Federal Republic of Germany's public. Instead, we experienced a defamation campaign against me. Our successful dialogue with Africa has therefore not reached the public.

Q: What is your attitude towards the reproach that you support primarily militant liberation movements?

A: Our support cannot be restricted to one group. Freedom movements must be supported where people in need of help, above all refugees, are involved. No freedom movement is excluded if it can be reached. Incidentally, what do you mean by militant? All these freedom movements are militant in a way. The people of Zimbabwe, the people of Namibia — they no longer want to hear stalling peace slogans. The people there have been waiting patiently for decades. While other black African peoples were able to begin their independent development ten, twenty or more years ago, the people in Namibia, Zimbabwe and in the Republic of South Africa — as opposed to their black African neighbouring countries — still live under conditions which deny them the possibility of an independent planning of their way of life under their own responsibility. The people of Zimbabwe see that Smith again held elections along the lines of the old discriminating formula and that he thus continues to govern. Thus the people can no longer believe in the propagated peaceful change. And we at our desks ignore this tragedy.

Q: Todenhöfer speaks of irrefutable evidence which he has brough with him from his trip. Has he presented this evidence to you?

A: That is exactly what he hasn't done. Only newspaper reports were published, and who can say with certainty who killed the people shown in the photographs? Incidentally, some photos bear the stamp of the Information Ministry in Salisbury. Moreover, it seems nonsensical to link refugees in Botswana with the bodies of people 1,000 kilometres away.

Q: So you stick to your policy? There will be no review of the aid for Selebi Pikwe? The reproach that you support terrorists is unacceptable for you?

A: It cannot be excluded that there are sympathisers of the fight for freedom and the various liberation organisations in refugee camps in southern Africa. But I cannot agree that in southern Africa this is assessed differently than it would be if it took place in the western world. A person who flees and works against a repressive regime would presumably be termed a freedom fighter here in Europe. The language is an expression of awareness. I cannot permit black freedom fighters to be vilified by terming them terrorists, as obfuscating theoreticians here interpret this. The German is supposed to say: Ah, terrorism here, terrorism there — the Social Democrats are always there. Why is the write-skinned person a freedom fighter and why not a black-skinned one? He has endured repression much longer, has been humiliated longer and is much longer exposed to absolute poverty. We Germans have always accepted all aid offered to us, the Marshall Plan, Unicef aid and the Quaker aid. Now that we have a chance to help others



the rightist reaction stands between our objectives and the Germans' willingness to help.

Q: Why have you not stood up more determinedly and earlier for your support for refugees, in other words for potential freedom fighters as well?

A: My statements have remained the same. I have been expressing myself clearly and unmistakably on this issue for months. If the public has not absorbed these statements or if it has brushed them aside as unimportant this is only another indication of how priorities are assigned in the opinions published here.

Q: What can the Federal Republic of Germany's development policy do for southern Africa over and above refugee aid and the support of liberation movements?

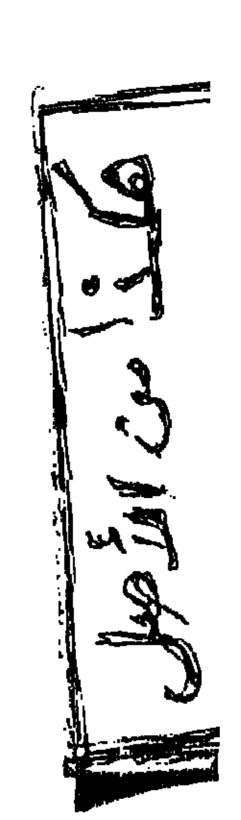
A: The countries of that region depend on the industrialised Republic of South Africa. This makes many an embargo discussion a two-edged sword. The moment the flow of trade is blocked Mocambique, Lesotho and Botswana, for example, would be faced with hundreds of thousands of jobless, and Botswana would be in a miserable shape with regard to its supply process. For that reason, too, we are helping Botswana through our development aid policy and by means of a fuel reserve which should last for about three to four months. This is also why we are helping to build up a transport system there. Zambia's President Kaunda made it very clear to me that we should not do too little too late. Many Africans told me that they have always asked us first for aid. Only when this aid failed to materialise did they get it from elsewhere. This is what happened with Mocambique and Angola.

Q: And this is supposed to ...

Continued on page 7



Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Marie Schlei (Photo: Sven Simon)



■ THE COMMUNITY

The search for a better Europe continues



The European Community can be likened to a Church which has lost its faith.

The grand time when the six original member states — still under the impact of World War II — agreed to conclude the Treaty of Rome is long gone.

What remains is the spirit of de Gaulle who always gave priority to national interests and who tried to prevent every step towards supra-nationalism. But there also remain a few guardians of the Holy Grail who are trying to revive the spirit of European unification.

De Gaulle's heirs are now to be found in all governments of the member nations; and only few European politicians have the moral right to condemn Britain's Prime Minister Callaghan who gleefully sees a further weakening of the Community in its inexorable enlargement by Greece, Spain and Portugal.

The few guardians of the Holy Grail, entrenched in the *Palais Berlaymont* in Brussels, are still hopeful, however, that this is an opportunity that could reawaken the awareness of a true Europe.

These besieged guardians have levelled the accusation that many of the national politicians, in their shortsightedness and thoughtlessness, are in no position to realise the effects of an enlargement — just as they were unable to do so when Britain, Ireland and Denmark joined the Community.

The hope that Britain's membership, above all, would contribute towards the Community's democratisation proved illusory.

What is at stake this time is the preservation of democracy in the three Mediterranean countries. All are agreed with regard to the major objective of politically securing the Community's southern flank in this manner. But there is little zip behind such lip sercice.

Europe's industrialised nations are already concerned about democracy at home and are therefore guided by petty national interests and worries.

The Federal Republic of Germany is apprehensive of a South-North migration as a result of extending freedom of movement to the new members (Greece already enjoys this freedom as a result of the Association Treaty). But Bonn is equally concerned about new demands for money for the Common Agricultural, Regional and Structural Funds which, it is estimated, will amount to DM5,000 million.

France and Italy fear the cheaper competition on the agricultural market — especially with regard to fruit and vegetables, citrus and wine. And virtually all anticipate threats to their textile industries, which are in jeopardy anyway.

These concerns have supplanted the long-term advantages of an enlargement.

Apart from securing the southern flank, these advantages would mean a greater weight of the community of twelve outwardly — above all by means of the Iberian bridge to Latin America. Another advantage would be the impulse to continue the integration of Europe. But this very possibility is not considered a blessing by the three great members. Britain has already advocated that the EEC be denatured into a free trade zone. The French are concerned about their influence, and even Bonn feels that stepped up integration would invest the unloved Brussels bureaucrats with too much power — bureaucrats who, in Chancellor Schmidt's view, are not even capable of managing a street-car company.

The great members thus favour a step-by-step policy. With regard to Greece, where negotiations are already in progress, an agreement will have to be concluded — but in due course. Concerning Spain and Portugal, the Nine will take their time — and plenty of it.

The consequences would be at odds with the great objective. Due to the fact that negotiations with the Community are dragging on, Greece's Prime Minister has decided to hold parliamentary elections a year ahead of schedule. And it is extremely uncertain whether in ten years' time Spain and Portugal will still be democracies worth preserving.

For the Federal Republic of Germany such a policy entails dangers. Bonn is interested in preserving and enlarging its markets. But a policy which aims no higher than at creating an exception here and an exception there and of patching up what already exists can hardly serve such an objective.

Where the textile industry is concerned, protectionism has already gained entrance to the EEC by the back door. For the weak branches of industry among the new members it will also be necessary to agree on certain protective measures, which only means that the disease of protectionism will spread. In other words, if the ideas of the founding fathers are watered down the Community will not even become a free trade zone worthy of the name.

As a result, the Brussels guardians of the Grail view the present course of the enlargement policy with the greatest of concern.

EEC President Roy Jenkins as well as the German Commission members Brunner and Haferkamp favour a big leap forward. Brunner is in the vanguard of this move. He would like to revive the dormant Monnet Committee and to persuade such unwavering Europeans as Edward Heath, Walter Scheel and Leo Tindemans to preach the old creed with new zeal.

He would also like to summon a conference of the Nine and the three applicants in order to discuss the shape and objectives of an enlarged Community and to develop the Treaty of Rome into a sort of European Constitution.

But this, too, would take time, and the interim period could be used to help the applicants prepare themselves for membership.

Equally bold is Roy Jenkins' idea of a monetary union and the introduction of a common currency.

The accepted view hitherto, namely that the inhabitants of Hamburg and those of Palermo must enjoy the same standard of living before a European currency can be introduced, has failed to convince Jenkins.

He points to the United States as an example where, notwithstanding a common currency, there are still considerable differences in income levels. In his view only bold ideas can be of any help. But all such ideas amount to a North-South equilibrium in Europe and would cost money — above all Bonn's money.

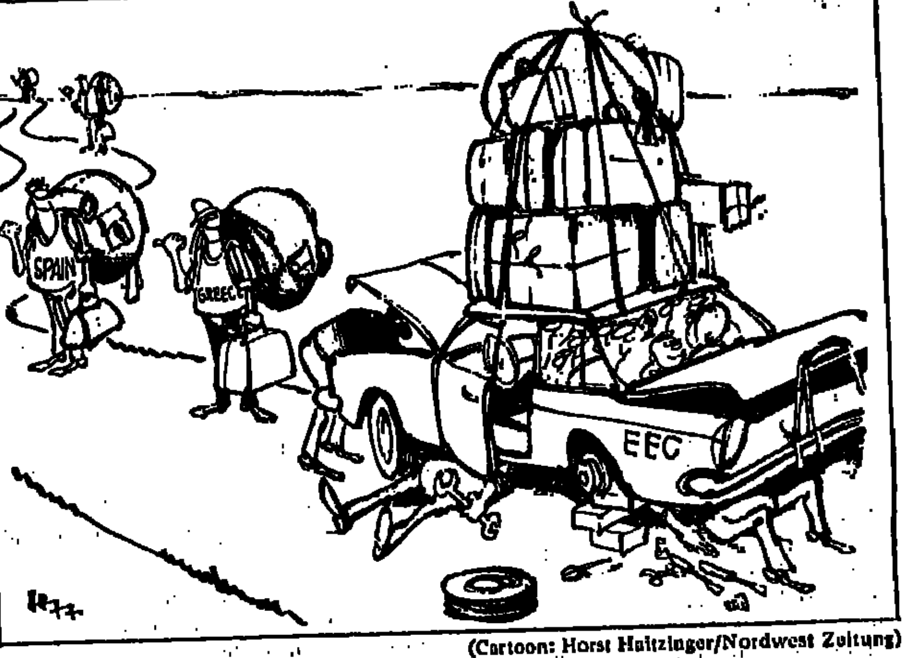
Finance Minister Apel has therefore already dismissed such ideas with the terse comment: "Rubbish."

But, given careful consideration, the cost can be justified. It can be justified economically because this would create a larger free market; it can be justified politically because it would do away with the danger of isolation into which the Federal Republic of Germany has been driven by the attitudes of Schmidt and Apel, who maintain that a healthy body is surrounded by nothing but the ailing.

The damage which the "model Germany" has meanwhile sustained has already given rise to plenty of ridicule.

It must, however, be granted that the difficulties are evident and cannot be overlooked. Apart from the danger of a new inflation, there is the threat of a farmers' uprising.

The EEC cannot afford a tomato mountain on top of a butter mountain. To start with, the privileges of North European farmers must be curtailed and the money thus saved used for structural improvements in the South.



(Cartoon: Horst Haitzinger/Nordwest Zeitung)

All this can probably not be done without a wider scope of authority for the Commission although even the most bold of planners dare not think of rigorous constitutional changes.

This means that the last word rests with the heads of government. Even before presenting his ideas to Chancellor Schmidt, France's Prime Minister Barre and the Council of Europe in December, Jenkins has already modified them to some extent, namely: proceed with smaller steps towards a monetary union, at about the pace as proposed by his French deputy Ortoli, who suggested a five-year plan for starters.

Dieter Schröder

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 15 October 1977)

Continued from page 6

now? South Africa for the Africans, but with German assistance?

A: Who can tell how a country will develop politically? Egypt is now a pillar in the Middle East. Somalia seeks cooperation with the West. Other states move in different directions. We want — and this is being believed more and more — no zones of influence on the African continent. It is to be an African way which the peoples of Africa are to go. Some leaders of liberation movements have accepted our aid because we gave them assurances that, the moment their countries — Namibia and Zimbabwe — are free, we shall offer them development aid, particularly in the form of technical aid. It is due to this statement that we are interested in their future that they are willing to extend friendship. I don't want to attribute this to myself, but it was high time that this came about.

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 16 October 1977)

JET centre to be sited in Britain

The agreement reached between the EEC Foreign Ministers (still to be finalised by the Community's Research Ministers) concerning the site for the joint European nuclear fusion research centre (dubbed Jet) has settled a long and unpleasant dispute.

There were times when it seemed as if the choosing between Culham in Britain and Garching in Bavaria would seriously impede Bonn-London relations.

This danger is now over. No new arguments had been put forward in the Jet issue for a long time. Essentially, the whole thing amounted to: Culham or nothing.

One of the British arguments, namely that Great Britain is still without a single major EEC project on its territory, now seems to have convinced the other members of the Community.

The fact that the talks between Chancellor Schmidt and Prime Minister Callaghan took place in the relaxed atmosphere following the happy end to the hijacking of a Lufthansa jet might have made it easier for Schmidt to agree to Callaghan's proposed site.

But it is also pretty certain that the British Government needed this success in its European policy at this very moment — namely immediately after the Labour Party Conference in Brighton.

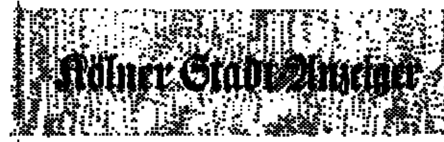
But this is by no means certain, since the view that London's Europe policy could be the least bit swayed to embark on a more pro-European course by a European gesture has proved unrealistic on several occasions in the part.

Egge Weers

(Kieler Nachrichten, 19 October 1977)

■ MOTORING

The most realistic test crashes not realistic enough



"I bet no-one has survived this!" Such spontaneous remarks are frequently heard at the site of a severe road accident. They are prompted by the badly damaged vehicles which seem to indicate that the very worst has happened.

Accident research throughout Europe, carried out by the automobile industry and its research teams as well as by special research institutes which have been operating for the past twenty years in the EEC nations, has come up with some astonishing findings.

Research results show that even crash tests carried out with the most sophisticated of instruments and with dummies of human beings provide no results that can be absolutely equated to reality.

This is particularly so in view of the fact that the simulated crashes of cars with dummies as passengers mostly take place at an angle of 90° against a rigid obstacle.

The conclusions arrived at from such crash tests led to the development of "safety vehicles" the passive resistance of which — as has now been established — does not always provide absolute safety for the occupants.

Subsequent improvements of crash tests in frequently very costly experiments — as carried out by Europe's automobile industry — have also simulated oblique collisions and accidents in which the vehicle turns over, but their results with regard to injuries sustained by passengers and arrived at by means of dummies are out of keeping with reality — though of course not worthless.

The decisive impulse for these tests emanated from the United States in the sixties. And these experiments we most useful indeed at a time when no-one really knew what actually happens to the passengers of a car hitting a rigid obstacle at a 90° angle and at a speed of 80 kph.

The American then tackled the accident problem with very considerable financial means, and this led to a set pattern for the passive safety of automobile occupants based on scientific methods that could be applied in a constructive manner.

At virtually the same time Europe developed a different idea, the line of thought being more or less as follows: "We shall pay less attention to the vehicle as such and concern ourselves primarily with the reaction of passengers in severe accidents. This includes a comprehensive examination of the injuries sustained in crashes."

The Renault company in France, with the help of the police, therefore started by studying several thousand actual road accidents. Similar tests were carried out in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1972/73 where the causes and the consequences of road accidents were recorded in statistical form. These statistics will now be reprinted and made public again.

All studies showed that head-on collisions — in relation to the usual speed at which we drive today — led to much more severe consequences in tests than in real life, where occupants have been found to survive.

In many instances the appearance of a vehicle used in crash tests could give rise to optimism concerning the fate of the passengers, while in actual accidents they were killed. This is particularly so when the passengers wore no safety belts and were thus exposed to retardation forces acting with split-second speed.

In the course of continued cooperative European accident research it turned out that head-on collisions account for a high percentage of road accidents, but that collisions at an oblique angle occur much more often than assumed.

Only in 17 per cent of the accidents under review did an automobile hit a fixed and rigid obstacle head-on. In 68 per cent of the cases the collision occurred with another moving automobile (this includes oblique angles) or with lorries, which also account for 17 per cent.

Such collision accidents between two moving automobiles (including those at an oblique angle), in other words the abovementioned 68 per cent of the cases, led to a fatality ratio of 29 per cent.

Roughly 70 per cent of all accidents, the study shows, occurred at an oblique angle involving another moving vehicle. The forces exerted in these real accidents have an entirely different effect from those established in experiments.

What matters is which of the two vehicles involved is the lighter and which the heavier one. It turned out that a small degree of distortion of the vehicle can lead to great changes in speed (retardation forces) within the automobile. In other words, heavy distortion frequently absorbs considerable portions of the energy developed in the collision, thus reducing retardation and saving the lives of the occupants.



Group photograph of Volkswagen's crash test dummies (Photo: Volkswagenwerk)

Hundreds of experiments with various types of vehicles, based on actual data gathered from road accidents, led to the following results: Where the occupants are concerned, the danger to them is linked with the sudden change in speed within the vehicle. A front-drive car, for instance, which is splendidly designed for a head-on crash, can entail deadly retardation for its occupants in a crash at an oblique angle.

The French Institute for Orthopaedic Research, in conjunction with the University of Heidelberg and other European and American research centres, has for many years carried out perfectly legal tests with corpses. These bodies were doctored up in such a way as to have roughly the same blood pressure as living persons (this is of paramount importance where accidents involving the capillary blood vessels of the brain are concerned) and their lungs contained air, which is important for accidents involving lung haemorrhage and injuries in the chest cavity.

The results of these tests were surprising inasmuch as they largely coincide with the causes of death in real traffic accidents.

Throughout Europe, the safety belt proved to be the best preventive measure for all types of motor accidents.

It also turned out that the head-to-head collision of two vehicles accounted for only one per cent of fatalities in road accidents and is thus statistically unimportant.

The much-vaunted "whiplash effect" (which is supposed to be prevented by headrests is also rather rare. It is therefore open to discussion whether the benefits of headrests are not outweighed by the fact that they obstruct the rear view.

Five per cent of the fatalities occur in vehicles that have turned over as a result of a crash, compared with 40 per cent that are attributable to doors which do not lock properly and permit the passenger to be hurled out of the car.

J.W. Reifenrath
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 October 1977)

Motorbikes are ego boosters, Cologne psychologists say



According to the Cologne psychologists Rolf Dellen and Gerd Bijersbach of the Delberg Institute for Psychological Research and Counselling, it is primarily the thrills and kicks that are the main reasons for the continued motorbike boom of the past few years.

Many owners of motorbikes are motivated by the "joy of danger and of coping with this danger."

Following a great many interviews and the assessment of international and their own research results, the two psychologists, speaking at a congress of the Work and Research Group for Traffic Safety of Cologne University, pointed to "flight from civilisation" and boredom with the comfortable limousines of our affluent society as one of the main reasons for switching to motorcycles.

For many of our contemporaries, it would seem, a ride on a souped up motorbike is tantamount to overcoming feelings of inadequacy and weakness which they might have experienced in automobiles.

Thus, for instance, the owner of a DM9,000 motorbike of 750cc said that he had formerly, while driving a VW, only been pushed around. "Now," he said, "I am at last at the head and not at the tail."

Some of the two-wheel hot rodders admitted that they wanted to show off.

Psychologists in the United States discovered a special psychological syndrome among motorbike owners which they aptly called the motorcyle syndrome.

Those afflicted devote an excessive amount of time to their vehicles, they are frightened of hurting themselves and usually have a disturbed relationship to their (mostly) successful father. They are usually passive in professional and sporting competition, suffer from insomnia and consider themselves weak and feminine.

These people need their hot bikes in order to lend purpose and direction to their aimlessness and in order to strengthen their fragile self-assurance, thus giving the impression of power which they do not possess. In other words, for them the motorbike has become a drug.

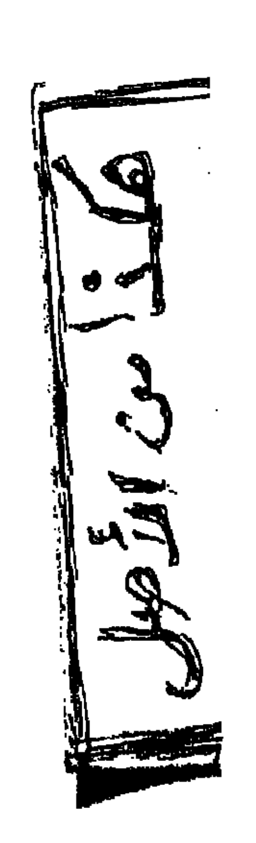
In view of all this, the Cologne psychologists themselves were suprised when — in assessing severe accidents involving motorbikes and automobiles — they found that motorcyclists were by no means more frequently the cause of the accident than were automobile drivers.

In those cases where the motorcyclist actually did cause an accident, this was mostly due to the kicks they were out for.

A study of police files on all severe motorbike accidents in the past few years showed that the most frequent causes of collisions were the ignoring of the rule to drive on the right, disproportionate speed and dangerous overtaking.

Among the automobile drivers guilty of causing an accident, the main reasons were wrong turning and entering of streets.

Ruth Lindenberg/dpa
(Die Welt, 13 October 1977)



■ BOOKS

Money and business reign supreme at Frankfurt Book Fair



The six day Frankfurt Book Fair is over. Evaluations of its success are, as one would expect, mixed. The overall attitude among the 4,500 exhibitors was positive, ranging from "pleased" to "very pleased." There were few negative judgements to be heard.

The Frankfurt Book Fair is the oldest and largest event of its kind in the world. It is not, however, a fair in which the exhibitors compete for orders — this year even less so than in previous years. The late date of the fair underlined this. The publishers' salesmen took in their orders long ago, and the bookshop stores are already full in readiness for Christmas. The trade was very cautious about putting in late orders.

When one asks how much business done at the fair contributes to annual turnover, most publishers' representatives shake their heads — in most cases the amount is so small that they are reluctant even to name a figure. In some cases even one to two per cent is too high an estimate.

The Seewald Verlag is one of the few publishing firms in which business from the fair accounts for a sizeable part of turnover: they estimate it at about three per cent. The Seewald Verlag was also one of the publishers which was "extremely pleased" with its results at the fair.

One of the main reasons for Seewald's success was its books on economics, with titles such as "How Affluence was Destroyed" and "Born: 1905" the memoirs of businessman Paul Kleinewefer. The latter was one of Seewald's best sellers and was backed by a powerful publicity campaign. The publishers' sales strategists believe that they have found just the right trend with their books on economics: producing popular but not over-simple works which are of interest to the layman.

The Econ Verlag is on the crest of a similar wave. Its *"Weltwirtschaft"* (World Economy) by Wilhelm Hankel, *"Besser Verkaufen — Mehr Verdienen"* (Sell better — Earn More), *"Der Deutsche Markt um 1990"* (The German Market in 1990) are three major successes. The publishers themselves describe this economics series as "Applied Economics."

Economic textbooks and books suggesting possible solutions to current economic problems were also much in demand at the Fair. Two books which come into this category are "Strategies against Unemployment" published by the Europäische Verlagsanstalt (EVA) and "Riding a Tiger" — a book dealing with the pros and cons of atomic energy, also published by the EVA.

Commentaries on new laws which could have far reaching economic consequences for those concerned were also in demand, such as works on the "New Divorce Laws" and "Regulations Governing Business Transactions."

The demarcation between popular and scientific economic textbooks is not as rigid as one might imagine, although the various publishing houses seem to have vastly different concepts in this respect. However, looking at the sales of these books over the year, one notices a striking difference. The popular books were on the market well before the fair and were already selling well. There was considerable interest in them at the fair.

The situation in the case of scientific textbooks is quite different. Sales here are not at all dependent on the fair. They are spread over the whole year, with a certain increase in demand at the beginning of university terms. The bookshops have already got their stocks in for November. What the students need for their courses has to be in the bookshops well in advance.

What then are huge events such as the Frankfurt Book Fair all about? On the one hand, making and maintaining contacts with the book trade and with authors (one publisher estimated he had had at least 70 talks with authors in Frankfurt). THen there are discussions with foreign publishers about the sale and purchase of translating rights and then, last of all, we regret to say with the consumer, the reader himself.

Discussions with foreign publishers about royalties and translation rights played a bigger part this year than at previous fairs. It was not always a question of signing contracts. Often it was just a matter of discussing what was on the market, what prices were, etc. This is what one publisher was referring to when he said: "In Frankfurt it's not about mind — it's about money."

Leo Fischer

(Die Welt, 18 October 1977)

A bonanza of records in Frankfurt

KielerNachrichten

New records are set every year at the Frankfurt Book Fair — almost as a matter of course.

This year, as fair director Peter Weidhaas pointed out at the press conference, there has been a more spectacular upward movement than for many a year — despite world book fairs in Leipzig, Brussels, Nice and San Francisco this year — and a new fair in Moscow only a few weeks ago.

The number of Spanish exhibitors rose by 70 per cent, from Switzerland the figure was 50 per cent, from France 30 per cent and even for Great Britain and the USA over 10 per cent.

An American journalist had the following explanation for the fact that Frankfurt continues to attract so many publishers and book trade people: "People come to Frankfurt because they come to Frankfurt."

The number of publishers exhibiting rose from 4139 in 1976 to 4537. More than 2900 of these have separate stands, the rest were on national stands. There were 279,000 book titles, 89,000 of which were new publications. There is no overall heading for this year's fair. Next year however there will be one: "The Child and the Book."

There were some regroupings of publishers this year in anticipation of the plan to have German speaking and foreign language publishers in different parts of the Fair comple from next year on.

The reason for this move is that German publishers are mainly interested in gaining the attention of the media and the public, whereas foreign publishers are mainly interested in discussions with authors and translating contracts.

The opening speeches were overshadowed by the recent events in this country. Reinhold Neven DuMont, on behalf of ten German publishers, condemned the attempts to label certain German authors "sympathisers with terrorists" and he declared the publishers' solidarity with their authors.

The first speaker at the opening ceremony was Bundesrat Preisdent Dr. Bernhard Vogel. Referring to the subject of terrorism and its causes, he defended the democratic character of this country adopting a line of argument similar to that used by President Walter Scheel in a recent speech: "A country is only as free as the discussions that take place in it and the books that are written and published in it can be." Dr. Vogel also spoke of the necessity to be more active in its cultural interchange with foreign countries.

Manes Sperber was the second speaker. Taking "The Freedom of the Writer" as his subject, he said there was an indissoluble connection between the authenticity of creative work and commitment to freedom and that this fact should be generally recognised." Nobody can live without hoping, nobody can think without constantly being confronted by doubt."

(Kieler Nachrichten, 12 October 1977)

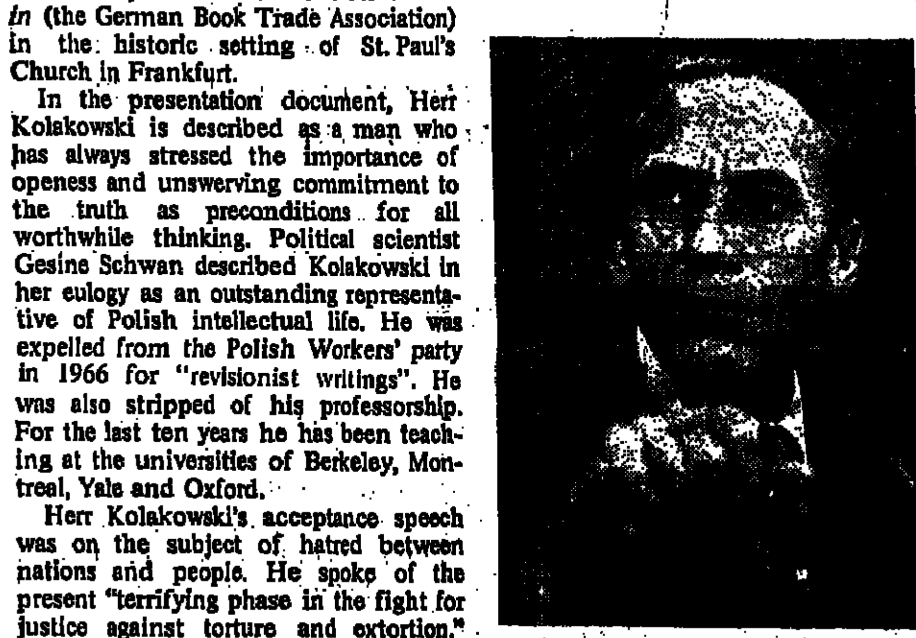
Peace Prize of the German Book Trade goes to Leszek Kolakowski

The Polish philosopher Leszek Kolakowski was awarded the DM 10,000 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade in Frankfurt last Sunday. Herr Kolakowski, who lives in exile in Great Britain, was presented with the prize by Rolf Keller, chairman of the *Börsenverein* (the German Book Trade Association) in the historic setting of St. Paul's Church in Frankfurt.

In the presentation document, Herr Kolakowski is described as a man who has always stressed the importance of openess and unswerving commitment to the truth as preconditions for all worthwhile thinking. Political scientist Gesine Schwan described Kolakowski in her eulogy as an outstanding representative of Polish intellectual life. He was expelled from the Polish Workers' party in 1966 for "revisionist writings". He was also stripped of his professorship. For the last ten years he has been teaching at the universities of Berkeley, Montreal, Yale and Oxford.

Herr Kolakowski's acceptance speech was on the subject of hatred between nations and people. He spoke of the present "terrifying phase in the fight for justice against torture and extortion." We spoke of peace because it did not exist and of hatred because there was too much of it in the world. He went on to say that we will perhaps have to live with terrorism for some time to come — but "we will have to live all the same,"

Education for democracy, he stressed, is education for dignity. This meant "a readiness to fight for democracy and a



Leszek Kolakowski

(Photo: Brigitte Friedrich)

rejection of hatred." There is a "mechanism in every conflict which seems to make every situation worse." He spoke of "petty every day conflicts, initially insignificant, ending up in mortal hostility, because they are dealt with in such a way that new conflicts are always created."

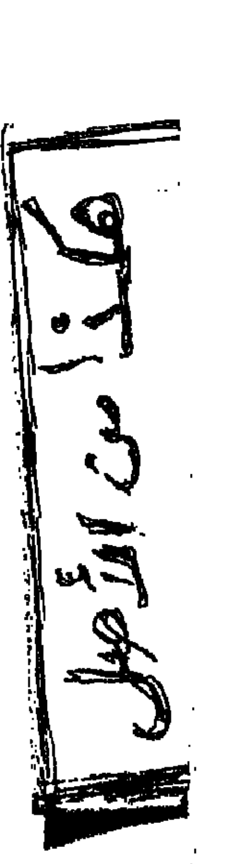
Conciliation and readiness to compromise without cowardliness or conformity and the ability to combat one's hostility without abandoning one's principles. These were the essential qualities of the peacemaker's art, he said.

Nobody, he went on, had a natural gift for this art. "The fate of the democratic world order depends on our ability to develop this capacity within ourselves." Few people, in Kolakowski's opinion, are capable of living entirely without hate. Yet "our entire civilisation" depends on these few. Hate could not be eliminated by institutional measures." But everyone who fights against the hatred within him helps to reduce the total hatred in society."

Hatred is, in Kolakowski's words, the "secret weapon of totalitarianism." Totalitarian systems need to use hate — not against outside enemies or threats but against society — to make their own citizens incapable of resistance by educating them to hate.

President Walter Scheel sent Herr Kolakowski a congratulatory telegram for the award of the Peace Prize.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 17 October 1977)



■ THE ARTS

Belin is well on its way to recapturing old glory as cultural centre

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The Berlin festival, with its exhibitions, readings, concerts, cabarets and performances under the general heading "Trends of the Twenties" is coming to an end. It was an encounter with the city's own past, an attempt to reconstruct or relive what life must have been like in those days when the city was undivided and in the mainstream of revolutionary artistic movements. From 1920 to 1930 Berlin was a centre of European culture.

A certain amount of nostalgia was therefore inevitable. But this festival was by no means just a hankering back to the good old days. The city still has some of the vitality, energy and passionate interest in new ideas and movements which characterised it in the twenties. The Meta-Music festival which had its effect as far away as South East Asia and Japan, is one proof of this. The festival is another. It aroused more national and international interest than any of its predecessors and proves that Berlin is still very fruitful ground for the arts.

This is a good moment to reflect on the question of how Berlin can maintain this influence and effect. The role of Berlin in divided Germany has been described in many ways: it has been called a front-line town, an island in a red sea, the showpiece of the West, and each one of these phrases refers to and describes a phase of post war Berlin history. None, however, is an adequate description of the city's present situation.

Will the next epoch perhaps be: Berlin, city of the arts? The festival, unique in Europe, was not the only event to reach new heights this year. The Film Festival in Berlin is as important as the Cannes Festival, and the town's theatre gathering is unrivalled.

The reasons for this high standard can be stated. The Film Festival has increased its programme in the categories of film history, relevance and quality — in contrast to the commercialisation of the Cannes Festival. The theatre gathering has benefitted from the improvement in quality in the German theatre (which experts such as Jan Kott now consider to be foremost in Europe) and this has made the theatre gathering an event unparalleled in its high standards.

The Festival has established itself by choosing new subjects and reorganising the programme. Programmes dealing with the city's past are sure to be a success — we saw this some years ago at the *"Aspekte der Gründerzeit"* exhibition, and it was confirmed at last year's programme on Schönberg's works.

The success of these programmes gave rise to a plan for a Prussia Exhibition, which is now being worked on, and is due to open in 1982. This will mean that for the first time a Berlin exhibition will deal with a repressed or distorted perod of national history — more so than the "Questions on German History" exhibition of 1974. It is a risky enterprise, which will raise a number of problems both here and abroad (in Poland for instance). Discussion on these problems is now going on.

The Festival comes into its own when it not only buys specialities for the international summer festival market but also shows the connections between the arts in a given period and helps to overcome the tendency to look at aspects of the arts in isolation, thereby showing an epoch in its context. The visitor is presented with a period in all its complexity.

Numerous plans have been drawn up for Berlin. They will consolidate and complement what has already been achieved.

An information programme and a film fair will complement the present festival. The theatre competition — which is always sold out — will be complemented by new events. Up to now it has tended to concentrate on a few performances from a small number of first class theatres. This means that up to now top-class plays have come to Berlin but the event has, as a result, only reflected one aspect of work in the theatre. It has not done justice to anti-theatres in big towns, and "off-off" stages.

There is talk of an alternative programme of free theatre groups or, if this is not possible, experimental performances. A festival of this kind is being held at the moment in Munich. Berlin will have to see how the Munich experiment goes and, if it is successful, start something along similar slines here.

~~The Berlin Jazz-festival, the biggest~~ jazz forum in Europe, will be complemented by an alternative free jazz festival and commissioned works containing elements of jazz and lements of serious music.

There will be a children's forum and a Berlin Conference at the festival, in which current and scientific problems will be discussed. A special programme "From the *Schiffbauerdamm* to Broadway" is planned for the 1979 Telecommunications Exhibition and, for the spring of 1979, a "Berlin-Paris-Moscow" project in collaboration with the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

The Berlin cultural administration is also faced with the problem of the summer gap. Summer tourists find little to inspire them in the city apart from a few exhibitions. So summer festivals are being planned to fill this gap with theatre, dance, folk music and pop festivals.

This programme seems to have been planned more with the people of Berlin in mind.

The most important project is a festival of the Third World which is to take place, alternately with the Meta Music festival, every two years and in which prominent and typical artists from the Third World will be coming to Berlin. It is certainly a daring experiment and may be more successful than similar attempts in Berlin and in other cities.

These are ambitious and expensive plans. There is even a danger that the people of Berlin could be carried away in the intoxication of non-stop culture programmes. But it must be remembered that the city's cultural programme is not for Berlin alone — it has a wider integrating function for Germany and for the West.

The Chancellor, in a speech to Daimler Benz workers recently, underlined his commitment to this programme. The problem of finance has already been solved in preliminary discussions in Bonn, Helmut Schmidt has stated that he does not want an elitist festival for Berlin but a "mixture of Salzburg and Recklinghausen", with a large number of workers from western Germany attending. He believes the trade unions could be persuaded to publicise the events. But who is going to make this dream come true. Who is going to subsidise travel costs?

Even if this goal could be achieved, Berlin would still have a number of problems to overcome. Berlin has so far concentrated its publicity campaigns on the city itself, and there has been little advertising in the rest of the country. This will have to change if events in Berlin are to attract more outsiders. Even this summer, all the hotels in Berlin were booked out and there simply are not enough flights to and from the city. This will have to be changed.

Even more important, the programme will have to be arraged in such a way that the visitor who only spends three or four days in Berlin gets an impression of the whole range of cultural activities in that city. The festival programme this year was a step in the right direction.

This is not the first attempt to establish Berlin's cultural position and stress its importance as a European centre. The efforts made up to now must be continued. One still hears the complaint that this is all artificial and imported. The question is what the city makes of its potential and the new chances. A lot will depend on whether it can persuade the somewhat reluctant theatres to take part in the programme.

The city can go on from here. The public is interested, curious, reacts quickly. All the major events seem to create the atmosphere which makes Berlin unique. The chances of winning the day over faint heartedness and scepticism are good.

Gunther Rühle

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 October 1977)

documenta 6 falls short of mark

The sixth *documenta* exhibition of contemporary art in Kassel is now over, having lasted a hundred days.

As Manfred Schneckenberger, the exhibition's art director, put it, the *documenta* had served its purpose. It had been well visited, and had given many visitors the opportunity to satisfy their curiosity about modern art close up, not at the respectful distance from which art is normally contemplated. This all sounds most impressive.

There were about 360,000 visitors to the *documenta 6,* which means that an average of 3600 people a day went through the *Fridericianum* rooms which were filled with photos, videos, paintings and sculpture, filed past the drawings in the Orangerie, walked around and over the landscape sculpture in the *Aue* park and visited the book exhibition in the *Neue Galerie.*

The art on display here was certainly consumed: the 360,000 visitors saw to that — and consumption in this case, as at the *documenta 5* which was visited by 225,000, meant not only use but wearing but, abusing and even destroying.

However, quoting figures and records — the documenta spokesman told *dpa* that there had been well over 500,000 visitors to the exhibition, and the news agency promptly broadcast this worldwide — is not enough, and is certainly no answer to the sceptical predictions made about this exhibition. Too many important facts have simply been ignored.

Take for example the reaction of some of the many thousand visitors who expressed their bewilderment and incomprehension in verbal rejection and physical aggression. (Joseph Beuys took a lot of time and trouble to talk to the visitors and explain his work, but this tells us nothing of most visitors' attitudes towards modern art).

Many artists, exhibition organisers, gallery managers and museum people where disappointed with this *documenta.* Then comes the fact that, all in all, national and international criticism of the exhibition was negative, in the specialist and in the ordinary press.

Some sections, such as the drawings, sculpture and sometimes the videos, were mentioned as honourable exceptions and there may have been regret in some quarters at the end of the exhibition, but this does not affect the overall negative response.

Manfred Schneckenberger, looking back over the 100 days, judged that the "quality of publicity was highter than for the *d 5*". The exhibition was plagued by crises, threatened resignations which were never tendered and nonsensical concepts which were called off. Herr Schneckenberger got the exhibition going despite all this and was also responsible for the sculptures which were among the most interesting and successful sections of the exhibition and so his insistence on its success is understandable. But comparisons with the *d 5* do not flatter this documenta. In large sections the exhibition was a complete failure, and the reasons are there for all to see.

The extremest reactions at the *d 5* were to Harald Szeemann's crazy, brilliant one man programme with its highs and lows. These reactions were at least a judgement, a response, an opinion. The *documenta 6* did not provoke any very extreme reactions.

The problem with this *documenta* was the diversity of concepts. There were six working groups working parallel to one another, often against one another and each mostly uninterested in what the other was doing.

Ever since its inception, the *documenta* has been based on the idea of consensus. In the case of the first four exhibitions, votes were taken to bring contrary opinions into some kind of common line. In the case of *d 5,* one man ran the whole show.

A *documenta* which ababdons this concept of consensus loses its unity and its claim to set standards for quality. This is a fact high attendance records cannot disguise.

Petra Kipphof

(Die Zeit, 7 October 1977)

■ MEDICINE

Infant obesity – the cornerstone for future ailments

It must be assumed that the processes which in the course of a lifespan lead to heart and circulation discorders begin in the earliest of youth and possibly even in infancy.

As a result, prophylactic care against these ailments must not begin at the age of 20 or 30 but considerably earlier, namely during childhood.

As Professor Rolf Grüttner, Hamburg, pointed out at the 74th Congress of the German Pediatric Society in Kiel, what matters primarily is an optimal composition of the diet and eating habits.

The attending pediatricians listened with great interest since much of what Professor Grüttner explained in a concentrated form was new to them.

Highly concentrated baby food — and Professor Grüttner includes the socalled two-thirds milk in such a diet — leads to obesity in infancy unless it is enriched with vegetable fats and carbohydrates.

This danger, which is not only attributable to non-adapted milk, is greatest in the first six weeks.

More than 20 per cent of the thus overfed infants show signs of obesity by the simple multiplication of fat cells.

This is extremely bad since the newly formed fat cells cannot be broken down in later life. Chubby babies therefore retain their overweight in the years to come. The cornerstone for major risk factors with regard to heart and circulation disorders is thus laid in earliest infancy.

The theory of the creation of new fat cells for the storing of excess fat is absolutely plausible though scientifically still unproven.

During the discussion in Kiel some participants therefore pointed out that there are essentially two different types of fat cells — only one of which can store excess vegetable fat. But this particular type of cell is not yet fully developed in infants, and it is therefore questionable whether its development can be stimulated by more than ample diet.

On the other hand, the fat stored in infancy is broken down as time goes by. As a result, those who disagreed with Professor Grüttner argued that a health hazard is out of the question.

Disregarding the outcome of this medical controversy, there was consensus among the participating pediatricians that the diet and eating habits of infants should be given more attention in the future unless breast-feeding is given priority as a matter of principle.

Thus, for instance, it was pointed out that many mothers do not prepare the milk according to the prescribed formula but feed their children in a concentrated form.

As well as this might be meant in individual cases, it is a disservice to the infant due to the fact that its food intake exceeds the body's requirements — especially when the mother insists that the bottle be emptied. In other words, the infant can thus be induced to become a glutton.

The risk of a wrong diet, primarily due to an excess intake of certain nutrients, is particularly great in the first few days after birth.

If, for instance, newly-borns are fed too much protein — the limit lies at about 3 grammes per kilo of weight — this not only imposes an additional burden on the metabolism but also endangers the development of the brain.

Children given a protein-enriched diet from the very beginning generally put on weight faster. As borne out by recent tests, this is primarily due to the fact that such nutrition generally also contains a great many minerals. These minerals can be deposited in the cells of various tissues. But from a medical point of view, the only problematic element in this connection is simple cooking salt, since excess quantities promote the accumulation of water in the body. By increasing the volume of cells this process can finally lead to hypertension.

Thus, for instance, the salt intake of an infant through normal cow's milk is twice as great as in the case of breast-feeding.

Until recently, baby food manufacturers added salt to their products. Meanwhile, however, they have taken latest test results into account, and most of them no longer do so.

Today, pediatricians attribute the problem of salt intake in infancy only to mothers who consider the taste of baby food too bland. If mothers find that their infant does not eat enough, they attribute this to the taste of the food and add salt in order to enhance it. In the interest of the child, this should be avoided — even though scientists have not yet clearly established that there is a connection between salt intake in infancy and hypertension in later life.

According to Professor Grüttner, prophylaxis against arteriosclerosis must also begin in infancy. Apart from overweight and hypertension, obesity is another major risk factor in connection with heart and circulation ailments.

But no-one throughout the world thinks of introducing a low-cholesterol diet although studies show that virtually one in two young men show clear signs of arteriosclerosis which must have been preceded by changes in the blood vessels. There is nothing to prove that all this is not attributable to eating habits in infancy.

In order to clarify this problem, said Professor Grüttner, it is most important to single out future risk patients while they are still in their infancy. These must be sought primarily in families where high cholesterol has already led to heart trouble.

Even if the cholesterol levels in these children are still normal, they should nevertheless undergo regular checkups since high cholesterol levels can occur in later years as a result of genetic factors.

Children from families with diabetes also number among the risk patients. They, too, must beware of obesity, and early dietetic and psychological counselling is indicated in their cases.

Just a few case histories brought up in Kiel demonstrated the extent to which diet and eating habits determine the future wellbeing of children.

If a child is not given a natural diet in infancy, prophylaxis against ailments — as for instance obesity, duodenal ulcer, heart and circulation ailments by means of a healthy diet later gains in importance.

Many questions that were raised in this connection at the Kiel congress cannot yet be answered since most of these issues are still virgin ground for pediatricians.

Further research in which medical specialists from all fields, including biochemistry, should take part is necessary in order to shed light on processes which are initiated in infancy and which lead to ailments that can only be diagnosed at a later stage.

Konrad Müller-Christiansen
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 October 1977)

A sound footing calls for early care

One in four children in the Federal Republic of Germany has deformed feet.

Orthopaedic experts pointed out at a congress of the Frankfurt Education Society for Orthopaedic Shoe Technology that it is above all the lack of prophylactic checkups and the minimising by parents which cause minor foot deformations to develop into severe handicaps.

Professor Erich Schmidt of the Orthopaedic Department of the Frankfurt University Clinic told the assembled 400 orthopaedic shoemakers from six European countries that the process of development in children aggravates hereditary deformations and that it leads to irreparable foot damage. Regular prophylactic checkups of infants and rigorous adherence to exercises prescribed by the doctor are of paramount importantance.

According to orthopaedic shoe technologists, the number of prescribed orthopaedic footwear is increasing despite the fact that the number of those wearing such footwear as a result of war injuries is diminishing.

More than 300,000 pairs of such shoes and one million inner soles were made on doctors' prescriptions in 1976. *dpa*
(Die Welt, 10 October 1977)

Prenatal care helps reduce birth risks

According to the Rhineland-Palatinate minister of health, some ... per cent of all risk births can be diagnosed early by prenatal care. This would greatly reduce mortality among mothers and infants.

The national health system provides such prenatal care free of charge and making use of it would also eliminate risk factors such as kidney ailments, high blood pressure, incompatibility of blood group between mother and child, threatening miscarriage and an abnormal position of the foetus in the womb.

According to the Health Insurance Cost Reduction Law, the minister pointed out, any insured woman receives a flat sum of DM100 if she attends the prescribed prenatal and postnatal checkups. The prescribed checkups are one each in the first two and two in the last two months of pregnancy. After delivery, women must undergo two further checkups.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 October 1977)

Wrong eating habits in schoolchildren

Every second child of school-going age goes to school on an empty stomach.

This is the gist of information provided by the Association of National Health Doctors for Northrhine in Düsseldorf.

According to the study, the older a schoolchild is the less importance does he or his parents attach to a healthy diet.

A test carried out at secondary schools in Bonn by the Consumer Centre for Northrhine-Westphalia has established the following facts: In the third year of school, 53.3 per cent of the children have either no breakfast at all or an inadequate one. This figure rises to 60.8 per cent by the sixth school year.

The Association of National Health Doctors warns that this not only has disastrous consequences for the general health of the children but that it also has a bad effect on the teeth.

The report goes on to say that it should make us think that an average of 23 per cent of schoolchildren interviewed in Bonn, Stuttgart and Offenburg were overweight.

According to the Dentists' Association, virtually every schoolchild in the Federal Republic of Germany suffers from caries. This situation could be remedied at a very low cost, the solution being that the children eat more bread since the staff of life contains all nutrients needed by the human body.

(Die Welt, 6 October 1977)

■ EDUCATION

Orientalists meet in Erlangen

The Eighth German Orientalists' Conference ended on October 8 in Erlangen, and organisation committee director Wolfdietrich Fischer, Arabic specialist from Erlangen, can be well satisfied with the event. Five hundred and fifty orientalists split up into thirteen working groups spent five days discussing and consulting with one another and listening to lectures and analyses, no doubt with varying degress of attention.

Specialist conferences such as this are an impenetrable labyrinth for the layman. The only thing the specialist lectures, discussions and consulatations seemed to have in common was that they all dealt with the Orient.

The word 'Orient' in this context is very extensive in its meaning: it includes all of Africa and all of Asia.

It is a familiar enough fact in the humanities that one academic may be studying strange things of which even colleagues studying the same subject have not the remotest idea. Nobody today has a general command of the very wide and vague subject area which goes under the name of "Oriental Studies." The author of this report has therefore confined himself to the area with which he is most familiar: German research on the Arabian Orient.

Arabic specialist Professor Grotzfeld, who lives in Münster, lectured on the dialects of the east Lebanese Bekaa plain and valley; then Erlangen lecturer Otto Jastrow spoke of vowels in the dialect of the North Yemen Jiblah area.

The Oriental Studies faculties at the universities of Münster and Erlangen are the most important centres for research on Arabic dialects in the Federal Republic of Germany. Professor Grotzfeld gave a vivid description of difficulties Arabists encounter in their field work. When they come into the village and immediately start asking the peasants questions about their village dialect, awkward situations frequently arise.

The reason for this is that Asians are more likely to become suspicious of a mysterious stranger than others. And even if the researchers manage to overcome this mistrust, another problem arises — suddenly no one in the village wants to talk the dialect as soon as the dialectologists start using tape recorders and microphones. The dialect of the next big city — from east Lebanon this would be Beirut or Damascus — is always considered more refined and elegant and the peasants try to speak it instead of their own normal dialect.

Highly specialised and detailed analyses of narrow subject areas are essential if we are to understand the language, history and art of the Oriental races.

In the section on Semitic studies, Professor Fischer lectured on "that-clauses" with 'an' and 'anna' in Arabic. This was a classic example of academic specialisation.

Professor Fischer and his former student Jastrow have this year started a new course on "Modern Written Arabic" which uses modern langunge teaching methods to facilitate the study of modern written Arabic.

Professors Fischer and Hütteroth from Erlangen must also be given credit for a section on the "Modern Orient", in which there were a number of fine lectures on recent history and politics in the Middle East.

The German Orient Institute in Hamburg is the main specialist centre for the study of Middle East politics at the moment. The publications this Institute has produced so far have been of varying quality. The Institute has published a number of first class works such as those by Friedrich-Wilhelm Fernau on orthodox churches in the East on the one hand, and financed mere eulogies of Egyptian dictator Nasser on the other.

During the Lebanese civil war, the Institute took the side of the radical Lebanese left and for Palestinian terrorists, without even taking into account the opposite point of view — of the Lebanese Christians attacked by Palestinians.

At least the members of the Hamburg research centre, which is part of the "German Overseas Foundation" and independent of the University of Hamburg, express a point of view on current conflicts. This is in contrast to the attitude of orientalists at most universities in this country, who have so far studiously avoided stating their point of view on any of the conflicts taking place in the Middle East at the moment.

Interest in the Arabic language and Arabic dialects seems to be increasing at German universities at the moment. However, the Arabic faculties at this country's universities, whose task is to study the Arab-speaking East, seem to be remote from the realities in these countries. How many German orientalists, for instance, know the *"Montagne Inspirée"* by Charles Corm, the national epic of the Maronites in Lebanon, printed in French and "translated from the Lebanese" as the motto to this astonishing work provocatively puts it?

Many of the academics at the conference would have said that there was no such thing as an officially recognised Lebanese language if you asked them about this work, which was written by the Lebanese writer Charles Corm in 1934.

And they would be right, formally at least. Lebanese does not exist as an official language — not yet. But soon — and maybe very soon, in a few years' time and certainly this century — Lebanese will be accepted as a new, expressive language alongside Arabic, Hebrew, Persian and Turkish.

This will come as quite a surprise to many an orientalist who has been sedulously studying narrow specialist areas since his youth and had no idea of the huge linguistic volcano that was rumbling in the Semitic East.

Harald Vocke
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 12 October 1977)

Stress at school overtaxes children

For some time now, parents and educationists have been concerned about the stress to which schoolchildren are subjected. A recent poll among schoolchildren shows that the talk of stress cannot simply be dismissed: far too many children are affected by serious problems which stem from school. Only one in six pupils, for example, feels that not too much is being asked of him at school.

More than one pupil in every three is afraid of being told off by his or her parents for poor marks at school. Only thirty per cent of schoolchildren can do their homework on their own.

These findings are the result of a poll conducted by the *"Aktion Humane Schule"* (Campaign for Humane Schools) in Aalen near Stuttgart. This parents' groups, founded in Baden-Württemberg there years ago, now operates throughout the country. In its poll, the parents' group questioned about 1120 pupils in thirty eight classes in primary, secondary modern and grammar schools.

Eighty per cent of primary school children questioned said that they "enjoyed going to school." In the case of secondary schools, only 50 per cent of girls and boys could say the same. The reasons they gave for their dislike of school were poor working atmosphere, increasing competition and ever greater pressure.

Sixty eight per cent of primary school children said they liked the working atmosphere, in the tenth year of the secondary school (16 year olds) the corresponding figure was only 25 per cent. In the ninth class of the secondary modern school 15 year olds *(Hauptschule)* and the tenth grammar school *(Gymnasium)* class the figures were 19 and 8 per cent respectively.

The older children get, the less they like what they are taught. In the secondary modern schools over a half of the pupils still approved of what they were taught, whereas among grammar and technical high school pupils the corresponding figure was only about one third.

One of the most frequent complaints was that the material was not presented in a manner which made it interesting to the pupils. This is a criticism which has to be considered in the light of grammar school teachers are too preoccontrast to primary school teachers, grammer school teachers are too preoccupied during their university careers with their specialist subjects and do not spend enough time on educational, didactic and psychological aspects.

The pupils' answers to the question "Do you think you are under too-much pressure at school?" provide considerable food for thought.

Only 15 per cent thought they were never under too much pressure; in the case of technical high school pupils, this figure was 8 per cent and for primary schoolchildren 25 per cent. In the ninth *Hauptschule* class only 12 per cent felt they could always cope, in the twelfth grammar school class the figure was only 10 per cent and in the tenth technical high school class only two per cent thought they were never under too much pressure.

Pupils in the different kinds of schools gave different reasons for why they were under too much pressure. One in four primary schoolchildren complained of the amount they had to learn and one in five of the marking system. Secondary modern school pupils felt they had to much material to learn. The pressure of marks did not seem to play such a big part here. In the technical high schools, too, about half of the pupils complained of the amount they had to learn. It is only from the eight class onwards that about half the pupils felt there was too much emphasis on marks. Grammar school pupils in the twelfth class criticised pressure to get high marks most severely of all (60 per cent of all 12th class pupils voiced this criticism).

One thing that seems to worry children in all schools far more than it should is the *Klassenarbeit* (class test). Only eight per cent of all pupils said they were not worried about class tests. Splitting this figure according to kinds of school: in the primary school it was 20 per cent, in the secondary modern school it was 11 per cent, in the technical high school 3 per cent and in the grammar school 6 per cent.

Pupils gave a variety of reasons for their fear of class tests: half did not think they had enough time. One in three could not understand all the questions, and one in three was afraid of his parent's reaction if he got poor marks.

Too much pressure at school — and too much pressure after school. After a long journey home — the regrettable result of closing village schools and bringing all the children in an schoolchildren still cannot just throw their books in a corner and go out and play.

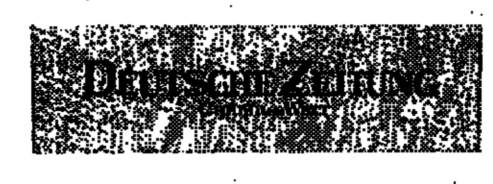
On average, 85 per cent of all pupils asked said they took up to two hours a day to do their homework (which means that about a half of pupils in all schools do a full eight hour day) Only a third can do their homework all on their own. Eighty per cent of primary schoolchildren need help with their homework; the figures for secondary modern school pupils is 65 per cent, for technical high school pupils 75 per cent and for grammar school pupils 57 per cent.

One of the few positive results of the poll: most of the older pupils help one another when they have difficulties.

Bettina Schwacke
(Die Welt, 12 October 1977)

■ SPACE RESEARCH

Spacelab candidate has his feet firmly on the ground



There is something very ordinary about Dietmar Sengespeik's particular way of *savoir vivre*.

The forty-year old test pilot of the Dutch/German aviation and space concern VFW-Fokker was interviewed by us at the Bremen Press Club. The photographer who was present would have liked to have had an opportunity for a particular and exciting shot. Unfortunately, he was disappointed and admitted quite frankly that he had "imagined a test pilot and a candidate for a space mission to look somewhat different. This fellow looks as normal as you and I...".

And, indeed, that is about the best way to sum up Dietmar Sengespeik who stands 1.72 metres in his socks and weighs 136 lbs. His hair is clearly thinning — but in all other ways he is in perfect physical condition, more so than virtually any other citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany.

There is noting to indicate a hero or adventurer. And yet, he is the man on whom the limelight of public attention is concentrating more and more from day to day as lift-off day for *Spacelab* draws closer — the event which will for the first time send a West European into space.

Of the 703 candidates in this country who were subjected to rigorous and sophisticated endurance tests extending over several weeks, five men (and no woman) were chosen as potential crew members.

They include four physicists and one mechanical engineer, namely Sengespeik.

As paradoxical as this might sound, the fact that Sengespeik is a test pilot counts very little when it comes to propelling a man into space. A much more important factor is the engineering background.

Says Dietmar Sengespeik: "Once the *Spacelab* programme is properly off the ground it will need neither pilots nor engineers. What it will need is experimental physicists."

Sengespeik then goes on to say: "Of more than 2,000 European candidates only 53 remained — 52 men and a French woman. This means that my chances of becoming a crew member of the first European space station are exactly one in 53."

And yet reality is somewhat different. A good dozen of the 53 candidates from the ten European countries belonging to the European Space Agency (ESA) — the last word will in any event be spoken by Nasa in the United States — have a considerably lesser degree of scientific training. In other words, the five Germans among them meet the highest of requirements ... or, to put it yet another way, the prospects of one of these five candidates becoming a crew member of *Spacelab* are excellent.

Granted, Herr Sengespeik keeps telling everybody that the first West European in space will have a doctorate in physics. But he also knows the problems involved in any scientific experiment, and therefore he carefully concedes that he might nevertheless have somewhat better chances of taking part in the first space missions.

The space travel candidate, who has had some 4,000 flying hours as a pilot (3,000 of them as a test pilot for VFW-Fokker, primarily in F 28 and VFW-Fokker 614 jets), knows that *Space Shuttle*, which is to be launched in 1980 will primarily serve test purposes in the initial phases. "This", he grants, "might give me an edge." What he means is the edge of a technician and project engineer.

Proximity to the VFW-Fokker subsidiary Erno Space Technology, which has been commissioned to build *Spacelab*, has in no way influenced the Bonn Research Ministry in its decision to commission the *Deutsche Forschungs- und Versuchsanstalt für Luft- und Raumfahrt (DFVLR)* — the German Research and Test Institute for Aviation and Space Technology — and the Air Force's Institute for Aviation Medicine to carry out the necessary tests.

Dietmar Sengespeik's prospects of becoming Europe's number one in space leave him cold so far as the record is concerned. Says he: "I have never in my life had the ambition to be the first at the South Pole or on the moon. But I would like to visit these places sometime."

He would forgo many personal advantages and would make do with less salary and with less free time if this would give him an opportunity to go to the moon or Mars or Venus.

His motivating force is the curiosity of the scientists for whom there are no taboos and no fixed frontiers.

Had Dietmar Sengespeik not become a test pilot — a job which fulfills him, incidentally — he would have chosen the career of a project engineer ... and this is indeed how his professional career began.

But he could just as well have become an ornithologist, a geologist or a paleontologist, since all these are professions which would have fascinated him.

His friends have nicknamed him the "stone hammerer". This is due to the fact that wherever he goes in the world he carries his geologist's hammer with him. No VFW 614, which Herr Sengespeik flies to all parts of the globe for inspection by prospective buyers, takes off without his hand luggage containing the hammer. And whenever he returns from a vacation he carries an entire quarry in his luggage.

The man who considers flying at twice the speed of sound as the most wonderful thing of all is just as happy to wander around on foot and retrace the geological development of our earth.

He began his aviation training with the Bundeswehr in 1957. He was 20 at that time and flew, like all other trainees, Pipers and Piaggios.

Subsequently he switched over to F 86 and Fiat G 91 jets.

He achieved the rank of lieutenant and became a flight control officer before leaving the Bundeswehr in 1964.

At the age of 27 he decided to study mechanical engineering, graduating in 1968.

Although Dietmar Sengespeik had not forgotten how to fly in the meantime, he nevertheless lost all the necessary licences except for private sports aircraft. This was not enough for the project engineer at VFW-Fokker, who felt envious of people like Ludwig Obermeier — at that time Germany's most famous test pilot.

It was the head of VFW's testing department who "discovered" Sengespeik. He found that the 1,000 hours flying time which Sengespeik had amassed by then were simply too much to be left unutilised.

As a guest student at Lufthansa's school for commercial pilots in Bremen, he refreshed his knowledge and acquired a new commercial licence, including a licence for instrument flying. Subsequently, he was trained in Holland for the 27-passenger short-haul jet F 28.

Later he flew as a co-pilot in Algeria and piloted flights for the Shah of Iran on the occasion of that country's 2,500th anniversary. Says Herr Sengespeik: "Sometimes we flew only a few TV films from Shiras to Theran and sometimes we flew royalty back to Europe."

All this was followed by two and a half years of flying from Amsterdam to all parts of the world aboard the F 28. The engineer thus turned into an experienced test pilot.

His special qualities were quickly recognised by an expert. When the ESA was looking for suitable candidates Sengespeik did not think of *Spacelab* and even less of his own chances of becoming part of it. And yet he was one of the few chosen from the 700-odd candidates.

Says he: "I really did not apply for the job."

Dietmar Sengespeik

(Photo: dpa)

Incidentally, the 40-year old test pilot is irked by the first signs of a spare tyre around his midriff and looks like anything but a superman.

It was a close friend of his at the DFVLR who pressed him to apply for the *Spacelab* job. He did so when he happened to be in Cologne, saying to himself that it could do no harm to have a shot at it.

The psychological and physical hurdles were in no way daunting for him. Having undergone similar tests before, he felt virtually at home at the Institute for Aviation Medicine and at the DFVLR.

As he puts it: "I was better prepared for it than many other candidates. The physical endurance tests which all candidates had to undergo — such as weightlessness, multiple gravity and heart and circulation tests under extreme conditions — are part of normal routine for me."

Triple gravity *as achieved in the* centrifuge of the DFVLR is nothing new to the engineer-test pilot, who is obviously familiar with the laws of gravity; nor is he unfamiliar with the practical effects of such tests.

Only the famous "Snowhite Coffin" proved a bit troublesome even for Dietmar Sengespeik. This is a transparent plastic pressure cabin in which all candidates are tested as to their circulation's ability to cope with normal terrestrial conditions after an extended period of weightlessness. The reduced pressure causes the blood to flow into the lower parts of the body, withdrawing up to two litres from the upper body.

Dietmar Sengespeik passed all these tests with flying colours. He and his testers were essentially agreed that his "professional qualities" were of relatively little value since, as opposed to American astronauts who frequently pilot their own craft in space, *Spacelab* crews will do virtually only scientific work.

Only absolutely healthy scientists, not taller than 1.90 metres, free of handicaps right down to the little toe and without fillings in their teeth, circulation problems or spectacles but with full university training in one of the sciences and an excellent knowledge of English, are called for. Dietmar Sengespeik meets all these qualifications right down to the smallest detail.

What excites him most is the prospect of one day being able to make use of his geologist's hammer somewhere in space. As he puts it: "Knocking on stones on the moon or on Mars would be exactly what I've been longing for."

In the final analysis, our space candidate is above all a geologist, and the test pilot will remain grounded.

Karl Morgenstern

(Deutsche Zeitung, 14 October 1977)

■ SPORT

Small family cruiser dominates Hamburg Boat Show

The ambition to own one's own little boat seems to be as strong as ever. This is the impression one gets from the 18th International Boat Show which opened recently in Hamburg. 9.000 exhibitors from 27 European countries are displaying 1,200 boats of all shapes and sizes plus a large selection of accessories as they compete for the custom of Germany's many yachtsmen.

The German boatbuilding industry has made considerable progress in the last few years and has won back a lot of ground from foreign competitors. Its turnover last year was about DM180 million. However, foreign boatbuilders achieved at least the same turnover on the German market and they also outnumber German manufacturers at the show.

Although there are few free mooring places on the coast or on inland waters, the exhibitors are still hoping for high sales figures. Statistics tell us that there is only one boat to every 228 people in this country. In this respect, the Federal Republif of Germany can be considered an underdeveloped country. And this is probably the reason why the USA and Australia are, for the first time, represented with big national exhibits.

Visitors and yachtsmen who stroll around the show this year may have to rethink their plans. There are a lot of now boats and accessories on display —. One noticeable feature was the increase in the number of large, ocean-going yachts ranging from 12 to 14 metres in length. Long voyages and even trips round the world would be no problem at all in these vessels. Several of these yachts are on display for the first time ever in Hamburg, including the new *Swan 411* from Finland, which is as streamlined and elegant as its illustrious predecessors.

There are a lot of new boats from England, Holland, France, the Scandinavian countries and — for the first time in many years — from this country. Most of these big yachts are so equipped that they can be sailed by a crew of ten or a two-man crew.

There is plenty of space below deck, even for a larger crew. Everything has been done to ensure maximum comfort — furniture from high quality wood, deep *freeze* grill, showers with hot water. Price: from 250,000 deutschmarks. The most expensive ship in this category on show in Hamburg costs 850,000 deutschmarks.

The small and medium sized boats indicate another trend: the family boat from 6.5 to 9.6 metres long, for sailing in coastal waters. These boats sell exceptionally well, as they have done in previous years. The designs are practical and well thought out. There is plenty of room for two or three children on a weekend sailing trip. Prices have gone up by an average of four per cent this year — in the case of smaller boats this increase is frequently difficult to understand. Large boat producers have had the clever idea of describing indispensable equipment as "extras" and, of course, charging extra for it. This means that a DM25,000 boat in the lowest price range is often no more than a plastic shell with a mast and a rudder. You have to pay another DM25,000 for necessary equipment before this shell becomes a comfortable and seaworthy boat. It is an alarming state of affairs for the safety of ship and crew when pulpit, anchor and lights are described as extras.

Single handed ocean and round the world sailing has become a kind of fashion among sailors from all over the world in the last few years. An English boat builder has taken this fact into account and produced a boat designed especially to meet the requirements of this kind of yachtsmen.

Otto Tiemann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 15 October 1977)



Sailing yachts at Hamburg Boat Show

(Photo: Conti-Press)

Stricter laws on on hang gliding are sorely needed

Hang gliding — "a new dimension of flying" — has rapidly been gaining in popularity ever since American ace Mike Harker did a spectacular demonstration flight from the Zugspitze, Germany's highest mountain, in 1973.

Before this there were comparatively few hang gliders here. Recent estimates, however, show that the numbers have doubled, from 5,000 to 10,000, this year alone.

Big headlines about fatal accidents have alarmed hang gliders recently and made them wonder how long they will be able to practise this sport unimpeded by legal restrictions. Munich hang gliding instructor Klaus Tänzler, who represents the interests of hang gliders in the DAEC (German Aero Club) has severely criticised the fact "that just about anyone can put a hang glider together at home and sell it for others to fly in."

An Augsburg manufacturer told me that glider makers had no need to fear claims for damages unless they had acted with extreme negligence and against standard principles of construction." This manifacturer's high performance glider has been banned by the South Bavarian Aviation Office but this must be seen as a mere verbal gesture, especially when one considers that there is no way of warning potential fliers before the weekend.

Most of these banned gliding craft continue to fly, even though the Kempten state prosecutor has not completed his investigations. Some gliders, according to the designers, simply make minor alterations to the craft, such as trimming sails or putting on new crossbars. They are apparently unconcerned by the warning that most fatal accidents in hang gliding are the result of alterations made to craft after they have been bought.

Statistics alone do not give a satisfactory indication of how dangerous this new sport really is. From 1974 to April 1977 there were 125,000 hang gliding flights and 76 accidents in this country, according to the DAEC. Seven hang gliders were killed. This year there were, according to the Aviation Office, nineteen crashes in the Bavarian Alps and three people were killed. The Aviation Office only allows starts and landings at certain official sites. This has meant that more and more hang gliding fans have adopted the practice of taking off from the Swiss and Austrian Alps instead.

"When German made hang gliding craft crash in Austria or Switzerland, it does not occur to the German authorties to draw the consequences" says the Augsburg manufacturer. In his opinion most designers are mainly interested in making the gliding craft as light as possible — some weigh as little as 25 kilogrammes. Given this development, he asks pilots what is likely to break first when there is air turbulence in the mountains, as quite frequently happens: the span wires which used to be four millimetres thick and are now only 2.5 millimetres, or the crossbars.

Many hang gliding pilots reckon that it is high time there were legal regulations on this sport. The Aviation Office does not consider the regulations which the Federal Transport Ministry is to bring out next year a great help.

Director Dr. Christian Lieberknecht said that the urgently needed law on glider training and state glider licences was unlikely to be passed, and the same applied to official tests and seals of approval on the hang gliding craft themselves. He pointed out that both gliding tests and state approval had long been legal requirements in the case of parachutes, which where not as easy to manoeuvre as hang gliders.

dpa

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 October 1977)